

Tony-winning A top actress on channeling grief. **PAGE 28**

Earthshaking Predicting earthquakes remains elusive. **PAGE 34**

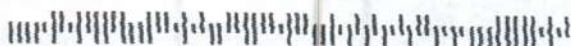
Animating A dream job writing skits for Barbie. **PAGE 41**

Brown Alumni Magazine
June-August 2024

Brown

Domination.

Brown women's rugby's got goals. **PAGE 18**



#BXNRYWY CAR-RT LOT-C:005 MIX COMAT
#00001314474#
4_022_BAM001 Pg6 7 24809 417659
PREDRAG L STOKOV, PH.D
825 PONTIAC AVE APT 7302
CRANSTON RI 02910-5930

Morgan Cunningham '24, captain of the two-time national championship winning women's rugby team.

Admissions Update

In last summer's column, I wrote about how Brown was considering whether to reinstate required testing or continue with the "test-optional" policy that was adopted during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The decision to suspend required standardized testing during the pandemic made sense. Many in-person testing centers were closed and it was only fair to give applicants the option of not submitting SAT or ACT scores during this challenging period. We extended the "test-optional" policy through the last admissions cycle in order to determine whether required testing helped us attract and admit exceptionally talented, creative, and intellectually curious students who bring diverse experiences and views to Brown.

Last fall, I charged the Ad Hoc Committee on Admission Policies, comprised of senior faculty and Corporation members, to consider whether Brown should alter its Early Decision policy, reinstate a standardized test score requirement, and modify existing preferences for applicants with family connections to Brown—specifically preferences for "legacies" and children of faculty and staff.

In March 2024, at the recommendation of the ad hoc committee, I announced that Brown would continue to offer its Early Decision option and reinstate the requirement that applicants for first-year admission submit standardized tests scores (the SAT or ACT, except in the rare circumstance when these tests are not available to a student) starting with this year's application cycle

(effective for the Class of 2029). The decision on Early Decision (ED) was straightforward: Brown has consistently high levels of diversity and academic excellence among students admitted in the ED round. And the concern that has been expressed by policymakers and in the media about ED—that low- and middle-income applicants may be less likely to apply because they are unable to compare financial aid offers across institutions and secure the most competitive award—does not apply to Brown, given that we meet the full demonstrated financial need of all undergraduates.

The decision to reinstate required standardized testing was driven by analysis that shows that test scores provide valuable information on the ability of students to succeed at Brown. Also, the committee's report makes a compelling case that being "test-optional" can disadvantage talented students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. Since Brown follows a holistic admissions practice and assesses test scores in the context of an applicant's background and experiences, requiring test scores will not disadvantage lower-income students who are less likely to have the benefit of test-prep services and other advantages.

Simply put, test scores can give students who come from less affluent families and who have attended high schools less well known to our admissions office a chance to distinguish themselves. And they can give our admissions team the confidence that these applicants will thrive at Brown.

Moving forward we know that we will need to communicate clearly to students and high school counselors about our commitment to consider test scores "in context," so that students with less access to educational opportunities that could boost their scores are not disadvantaged. These students—some of whom may have scores that are lower than the median for Brown, but excellent in their local setting—are strongly encouraged to apply and can be highly competitive in the admissions process.



I should note the committee did not make a recommendation on admissions preferences related to family connections. Relative to our peers, Brown accepts relatively few "legacy" students—only about 8 percent of the enrolled class—and those who are admitted have stronger-than-average academic credentials. And members of multi-generational Brown families are among some of our most loyal alumni who support Brown in a myriad of ways and carry forth Brown traditions and culture. However, I recognize that some question whether admissions preferences based on family connections align with the core values of our community.

This is a difficult issue and inspires deep emotions among many in our community. The committee recommended that we probe these issues and collect information from a broader range of faculty, staff, alumni, and students before making a decision.

To that end, I invite you to share your thoughts about family preference in admissions. Please feel free to write to president@brown.edu. I look forward to hearing from you.

Christina H. Paxson
President

Test scores provide valuable information on students' ability to succeed at Brown.

Inside

Her mom died the night before her show opened. But with the support of her family, veteran actress Miriam Silverman '01, '05 MFA kept going, channeling her grief into her role and winning a Tony. BY ALIX SOBLER '01

28 A Tony win on the

"You could be tall, you can be shorter, you could be slim, you could be muscular. Everybody is celebrated in rugby."

—Head Coach Rosalind Chou

18 The "bold, beau

Hard play and strong bonds: Brown women's rugby are two-time national champions.

BY SARAH MCGRATH '24



34 Why we still can't

"It's like, 'Oh, that doll doesn't bend at the elbows, so she can't look at her watch.'"

—Bill Watterson '95

41 Playing with Bar



80 The overnight

Four cities in four days—and that was with her mom in tow! Ayoola Fadahunsi '25 on the appeal of "fast traveling." BY RACHEL KAMPHAUS '25

heels of a profound loss

"I was in pain all day long anyway. This at least gave me a chance to do something I loved at night."

—Miriam Silverman '01, '05 MFA



tiful beasts" of Brown

We've basically given up trying to predict earthquakes, says seismologist Michael Blanpied '85 ScM, '89 PhD. Today's emphasis is on more general forecasting combined with better preparation, informed by data. BY LESLIE GOLDMAN

predict earthquakes

Making TikToks with Barbie is a pretty fun job, says director Bill Watterson '95, who has a whole lot of dolls in his house. BY ABIGAIL CAIN '15

"After that, you wouldn't say the word prediction because you'd be labeled a crackpot."

—Michael Blanpied '85 ScM, '89 PhD

bie and Ken...for a living

"Why would you do that? Sleep on a bus!"

—The Italian cousins

bus to Rome



Earthquake!

My NYC friends were freaking out in April after a 4.8 earthquake. “Sh***t we just had an earthquake” went one Facebook post from normally erudite Columbia professor Marie Myung-Ok Lee ’86. I could relate. In October 1989 my then-partner Joan Hilty ’89 and I had only been in San Francisco a month. I was temping as the receptionist at a law firm downtown when the 6.9 quake hit. “This is just one of those little earthquakes like they have all the time out here,” I said to my East Coast self. “No big deal; play it cool.” Like earthquake scientist Michael Blanpied ’85 ScM, ’89 PhD (p. 34), I had nothing to compare it to.

I walked calmly to the nearest door frame [no longer recommended] and stood there acting casual. The phone on the reception desk was blinking red and emitting little fluttery rings from the motion. The building bucked and rolled like the Fun House at the state fair. “It’s cool,” I told myself again. The fluorescent lights went out. Outside the 12th floor window, office buildings swayed back and forth, in and out of the window frame, against the bright blue sky. I noticed that folks in the office who were actually from San Francisco were starting to freak out. “Or,” I thought to myself, “this is the Big One and we’re all gonna die.” I was just starting to consider freaking out, myself, when the motion stopped.

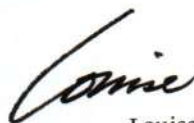
“Or,” I thought to myself, “this is the Big One and we’re all gonna die.”

The quake’s carnival ride over, I picked my way in my ’80s receptionist costume down 12 flights in the pitch-black stairwell and spilled onto the street along with thousands of others. No one seemed panicked. It was like a big crowd waiting for a parade to start.

In San Francisco the buses are electric—great for breathing, bad for travel in a blackout. All public transit was shut down. I decided to hoof it and got as far as Union Square, about three blocks from the office, where the huge windows of a department store lay shattered on the sidewalk—the first earthquake damage I’d seen. Looking at the shards of glass glinting menacingly in the late-day sunshine, I started to have second thoughts about a solo trek in my flimsy silk-and-pumps ensemble through unknown neighborhoods as the sun went down. Back on Market Street I heard a horn honking. “Louise! Louise!” Magically, there was Joan, in our car, come to save me.

It was the aftershocks that destroyed my nervous system, knowing by then about the destruction and death in the Marina district and on the Bay Bridge (which I was originally supposed to be on that day at about that time—my mom was losing it until Nina Jacobson ’87 got through to me and then her).

This issue offered me a lot to connect to—I had friends on the women’s rugby team (p. 18), I love to travel, but prefer slow (p. 80), and my high school senior son likely got a leg up in college admissions (he didn’t apply to Brown) due to his athletic prowess and I question the fairness of that (p. 16). But Loma Prieta was up there with 9/11 and Covid for me. I think maybe I’ll be heeding Blanpied’s “preparedness over prediction” advice and laying in some emergency supplies. Happy summer!



Louise Sloan ’88
Editorial Content Director

Brown Alumni Magazine

Editor & Publisher
Pippa Jack

Editorial Content Director
Louise Sloan ’88

Creative Director
Lisa A. Sergi

Managing Editor
Sheila Dillon

Digital & Art Production Manager
Courtney Lewis Cheng

Advertising & Business Manager
Kerry Lachmann
(401) 863-1898

Advertising Sales Agent
Jean Lewis
BAMads@brown.edu
(401) 863-9612

Contributing Editors
Jack Brook ’19, Stephanie Grace ’87,
Michael Littman ’96 PhD, Tim Murphy
’91, Bob Schwartz ’70, Leslie Weeden

Contributing Photographer
David DelPoio

Interns
Yukti Agarwal ’25, Christine Baek
’25, Nidhi Bhaskar ’21, ’26 MD, Angel
Benjamin ’25, Ana Boyd ’24, Noble
Brigham ’24, Julianna Chang ’26,
Wenqing Chen ’24 ScM, Ayoola
Fadahunsi ’25, Emily Faulhaber ’24,
Evan Gardner ’25, Jade Hardwick ’26,
Rachel Kamphaus ’25, Amit Levi ’24,
Sarah McGrath ’24, Amiri Nash ’25,
Andrea Perez ’25, Dana Richie ’25,
Megan Talikoff ’25, Sean Toomey ’24,
Luka Willett ’24

National Advertising Sales
IVY LEAGUE MAGAZINE NETWORK
Contact through BAMads@brown.edu

Board of Editors
Eric Schurenberg ’75 (chair), James
Bernard ’87, Casey Caplowe ’03,
Morgan Clendaniel ’04, Chip Giller
’93, Glenn Kessler ’81, Brent Lang ’04,
Zack Langway ’09, Carlos Lejnieks
’00, Kristen Mulvihill ’91, Marcello
Picone ’90, Scott Poulson-Bryant ’08

Special Advisors
Sandra Benya ’88, Eldridge Gilbert
’05, Ivy Scott ’21.5

©2024 Brown Alumni Magazine
VOL. 124, ISSUE 5

Brown Alumni Magazine (ISSN 1520-863X) is published five times a year in January, April, June, September, and November by Brown University, 350 Eddy St., Providence, R.I. 02903. Periodicals postage paid at Providence, R.I., and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: send address changes to P.O. Box 1908, Providence, R.I. 02912. (401) 863-2307; alumni_records@brown.edu. Send editorial correspondence to Box 1854, Providence, R.I. 02912.

General inquiries: (401) 863-2873;
alumni_magazine@brown.edu;
www.brownalumnimagazine.com

PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

ON THE COURT & BEHIND THE CAMERA



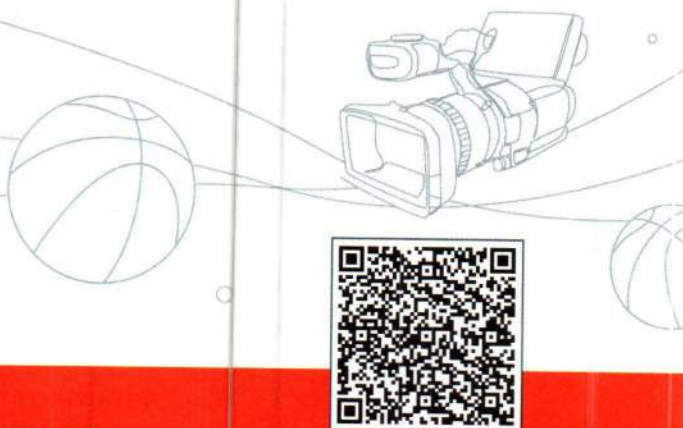
If you're a fan of the Brown Bears, you might know **Aaron Cooley '25** as #21 on the men's varsity basketball team. But that's not all he wants to be known for.

What's Cooley's game plan? Break into the world of filmmaking. As a child, he made short films using his mom's camcorder. At Brown, he's honing his craft with state-of-the-art gear and editing software that had previously been out of reach.

A financial aid recipient, Cooley is grateful for the donor support that not only brought him to College Hill, but has filled his Brown experience with opportunities, resources, and potential. "These resources are here for us, and it is up to us to use them to our advantage and drop down the ladder for those who follow," says Cooley.

"I wanted to go somewhere with opportunities in basketball, film, and business, and Brown was that perfect balance. The connections I make while being here will impact me for the next 40 years, not just the four years I'll spend on College Hill."

/ Aaron Cooley '25
financial aid recipient & student-athlete
Roxbury, Massachusetts



Cultivating an unparalleled student experience.

Help us continue to make a world-class education accessible to students from all backgrounds by making a gift to the *BrownTogether* campaign. Learn more by scanning the QR code.



BROWN TOGETHER

What Do You Think?

Dilly Life, a new apparel collection inspired by and for pickleball from Ken Giddon '81 and Brian Guttman, launched in April.

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE

Tim Murphy did a wonderful job painting a portrait of this marvelous, beautiful, and singular free spirit, lover of life, gifted writer, expansive performer, and beautiful human being (Annie Lanzilotto '86, "Living Large While Something's Trying to Kill You," Apr.-May '24). I met Annie in the computer lab on Pembroke campus in the spring of 1986. Annie draped her computer with a beautiful scarf and kept a portrait of herself lying naked in front of the pyramids in Egypt, a big smile on her face, on top of it. She had taken the trip after her first bout with cancer, against the stern advice of her doctor. Annie told me she kept the picture there as a reminder that no one should set limits on what one chooses to do in this life. I have never forgotten that. Here's to you, Annie.

Ellen LaPointe '89.5
Scarborough, Me.
ellenlapointe@gmail.com

I think I can shed some light on the photo on page 53 that shows Louise Sherlock Tighe '53 involved in a psychological testing lab course. ("Psych Experiment," The Classes, Apr.-May '24). The apparatus she is touching appears to be a signal generator. The signal can be viewed on an oscilloscope to calibrate its output, which is apparently what she is doing. I'm guessing that the students in the

"She kept the picture there as a reminder that no one should set limits on what one chooses to do in this life. I have never forgotten that."

—Ellen LaPointe '89.5



dillylifepickleball • Follow ...

dillylifepickleball • Follow
Make everyday feel like vacation with DIP-DYE 🍹🍹

#pickleball #pickleballislife #pickleballrocks #pickleballaddict #tennis #pickleballaddiction #pickleballers #pickleballplayers #pickleballtournament #pickleballpaddle #sports #playpickleball #pickleballs #ilovepickleball #pickleballlife #pickleballtournaments #usapickleball #fun #pickleballer #usapa #pickleballusa #pickleballcentral #pickleballcourt #pickleballstron #fitness #pickleballchamps

background (with the pencils) were testing the hearing (i.e., measuring audio-grams) of the students sitting behind the glass in sound-attenuated booths.

Heywood M. Petry '81 PhD
Blue Hill, Me.

What a great idea to have an entire issue devoted to mental health (Apr.-May '24). The articles were wide-ranging but tied together nicely. The multiple perspectives on one topic were important, informative, and inspiring.

Dan Woog '75
Westport, Conn.

Thank you for the story on Molly Josephs '09 ("Are the Kids Alright?," Apr.-May '24). The boldness here is that Molly takes a step back and lets the kids do the talking.

Stuart Stern
Glen Rock, N.J.

SHOUTING STUDENTS

As a once proud graduate of Brown, I am mortified that current students of my alma mater think that an appropri-

ate form of protest is to "shout down" differences of opinion rather than engage in constructive debate ("Tragedy, Far Away and Close to Home," Under the Elms, Jan.-Mar. '24).

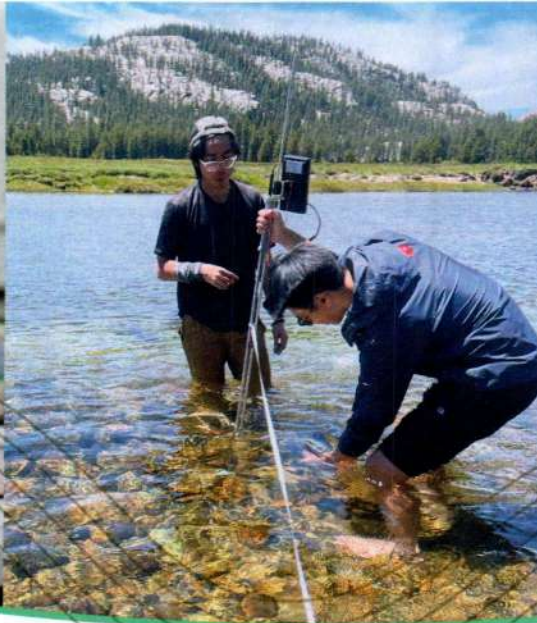
Ana Michaela Meehan '85
Washington, D.C.

ADDICTION OPINIONS

While it's great that BAM is highlighting another recovery program responding to the epidemics of addiction and alcoholism, which have worsened since the pandemic, the article, "12-Step Alternative" (Apr.-May '24) mischaracterizes Alcoholics Anonymous and 12-Step programs. There is absolutely no religious requirement for attendance. Members are asked to develop "an understanding of a power greater than themselves" which can be the love of the group, nature, or anything else one may deem greater than oneself.

Paige Cokos Rienzo '97
Kensington, Md.

The idea of providing OPCs has been opposed by almost everyone in the drug



BROWN
Pre-College Programs

ENGAGE YOUR POTENTIAL

Embrace independence, responsibility and rigorous academics as you forge a path toward your future.

Brown Pre-College is a unique opportunity for talented high school students to explore the joys and challenges of the college experience. Students are immersed in Brown's rigorous academics and student-centered Open Curriculum while experiencing college life on our historic campus, in our online courses and in programs at domestic and international locations.

Students nurture their diverse interests, take intellectual risks and gain exposure to Brown's distinctive approach to education while making friends and memories that last a lifetime.

EXPLORE
BROWN
PRE-COLLEGE



prevention and rehabilitation field ("A Welcome Mat for Drug Addicts," The Big Issue, Jan.-Mar. '24). I have been involved since 1977 as a board member and chairman of New York Therapeutic Communities Inc. We operate two residential treatment centers, do outpatient counseling for probation and parole agencies, and also now operate a separate location to deal with the opioid crisis. I suggest you host a seminar on campus and invite the experts who deal with these issues every day, not only academics untouched by the day-to-day reality of addiction.

Sidney Baumgarten '54
North Brunswick, N.J.
sidbaumgarten@aol.com

Ed. note: The BAM changed the headline of the article based on expert feedback. On our website, it can be found under the title "A Judgment-free Zone for Drug Use."

LONG COVID

As someone suffering from post Covid chronic fatigue, I am troubled by the diagnostic criteria presented in "Do You Have Long Covid?," which are wholly inadequate (Beyond the Gates, Jan.-Mar. '24). Severe fatigue is a debilitating condition and should be enough for a Long Covid diagnosis in and of itself.

Seth H. Jackson '77
Cliffside Park, N.J.

Re: "Coping with Covid 101," Courses of Study, Apr.-May '24: The pandemic never ended. It is irresponsible and ableist to refer to it in the past tense. This disregards the experiences of people living with disabilities and chronic illnesses who continue to live in isolation to protect themselves from further infection, particularly the millions like myself with Long Covid.

Samantha Crausman '19
Rehoboth, Mass.

*More letters about Long Covid at
brownalumnimagazine.com.*

KEITH WALDROP

The sad news that Keith Waldrop died brought me back to fall 1989, when I did an independent study with him on the Expatriates in Paris during the 1920s (Faculty Obits, Jan.-Mar. '24). Arranged casually by my faculty advisor Roger Henkle, an impish Profes-

"The funniest [Joe's sandwich] at the time was the Gov Licht—baloney and tongue on white bread."

—Lynne Steffens Sedey '71

sor Waldrop (really, Keith) welcomed a stranger into his book-filled office and moved some things so I could sit down. I was privileged to be introduced to the lesser known avant garde beyond Stein and Toklas's apartment. I still can't quite believe my luck, and feel an intimate nostalgia for the figures I first learned of from this remarkable man. He is missed.

Ayala Levin-Kruss '91
Jerusalem, Israel

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Re: "Invisible Champions," Classes, Jan.-Mar. '24: Great article—thanks Louise Sloan '88. So it took decades to correct the record. Better late than never.

Nancy L. Buc '65
Washington, D.C.

More responses to the women's basketball story at brownalumnimagazine.com.

GEOFF'S & JOE'S

In our March BAM! newsletter, we resurfaced a March 1974 BAM story, "Streakers Streak in Wriston Quad." It's gotten letters, but about "The Streaker" sandwich at Joe's on Benefit, not naked running. The following are in response to Sam Fulcomer '80 saying, in the April newsletter, that the sandwich shop was Geoff's, not Joe's:

There was definitely a Joe's on Benefit Street. My favorite sandwich was the Mad Dog (roast beef, cream cheese, red onion, and ketchup on a kaiser roll), but the funniest one at the time was the Gov Licht—baloney and tongue on white bread.

Lynne Steffens Sedey '71
Kansas City, Mo.

Sam Fulcomer '80 is absolutely incorrect about the history of Joe's. Joe's on Benefit Street was opened in the fall of 1967 by Dewey Dufresne, a Moses Brown and RISD graduate. In the early 1970s, he opened a restaurant

named Joe's Upstairs on the second floor of the recently closed Shepard's department store in downtown Providence. Unfortunately, the gentrification of downtown Providence hadn't yet started and Joe's Upstairs failed. The failure took down Joe's on Benefit Street. Geoff was the meat supplier and he wound up gaining control of Joe's and changed its name. Dewey moved to New York City, where he lived on the not yet gentrified Lower East Side and worked as a building superintendent/maintenance man. He opened 71 Clinton Fresh Food and hired his son, Wylie Dufresne, to be the chef. The restaurant became an overnight success with Dewey acting as maître d' and wine manager. In 2003, Wylie opened wd-50. He couldn't have been more gracious when I introduced myself. Wd closed in 2014, unfortunately.

Robert Solomon '71
Greenwich, Conn.

KAPSTEIN CHAIR

The well-deserved tribute to the poet Michael Harper ("Pioneering Poetry," Beyond the Gates, Jan.-Mar. '24) omitted the fact that Harper was the first holder of the I.J. Kapstein Chair in English. Created in 1988, it was also the first chair endowed in the department since 1802. Marvyn Carton '38 donated \$1 million (\$5 million in today's money) in honor of the former Brown English professor, my late father, Israel J. Kapstein '26 '31 PhD, '76 LLD. Carton often said the Kapstein course on the modern novel was the only liberal arts elective he took at Brown, and, in his own words, "It stayed with me for life."

Jonathan Kapstein '61
Woodbury, Conn.
jon.kapstein@gmail.com

AGEISM CHECK

Re: "Human Studies," Classes, Sept.-Oct. '23: Arnold Weinstein says, "Not only am I subject to the kind of slow-moving brain-rot that afflicts most folks my age." Why is that any better than "Not only am I subject to the inability to understand STEM fields that affects most women?"

Prof. Felicia Nimue Ackerman
Department of Philosophy

More responses to Professor Weinstein's essay at brownalumnimagazine.com.

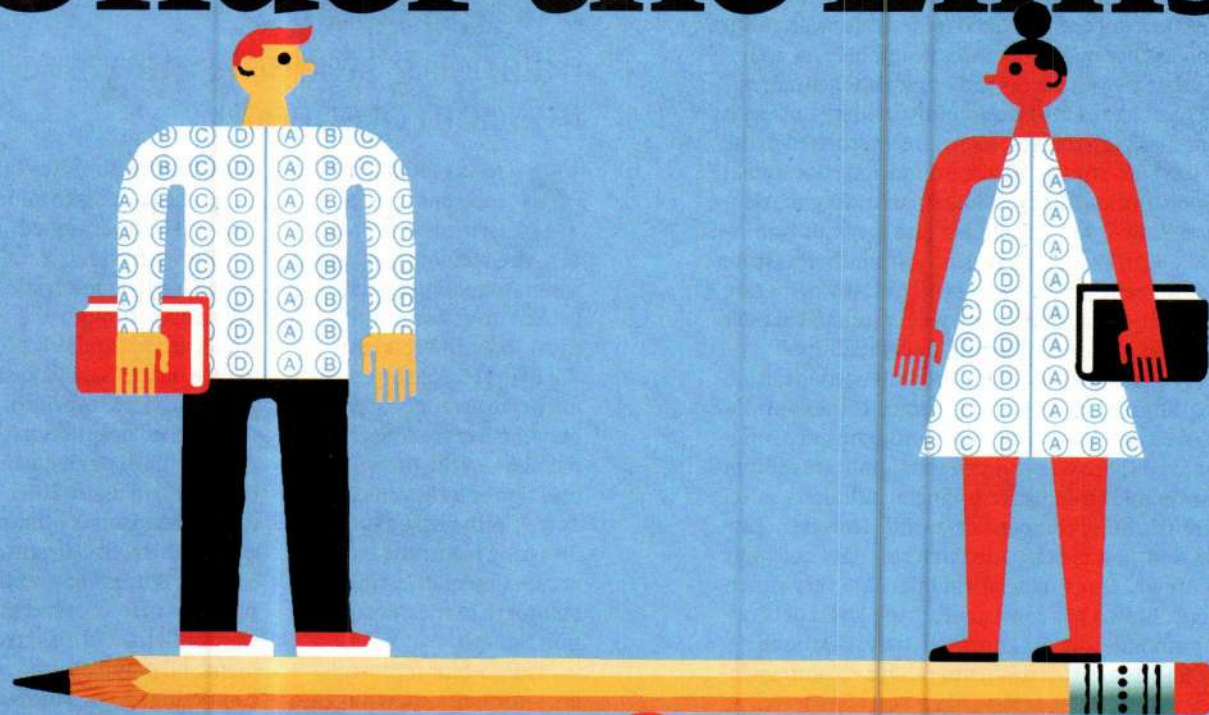
"Seeing the Crab Nebula over your table is kind of ridiculous, but every time we show that one to somebody, they laugh, they smile, they want to learn more. It's why I think people who do science have almost a responsibility to get their work out there."—Computer sci researcher Tom Sgouros on new Instagram filters by scientists at Brown, NASA, and the Smithsonian. Get spacey with your selfies—hit the ✨ symbol at @Smithsonian (mobile only).



JUNE-AUGUST 2024

9 CAMPUS NEWS 14 COURSES OF STUDY 16 THE BIG ISSUE

Under the Elms



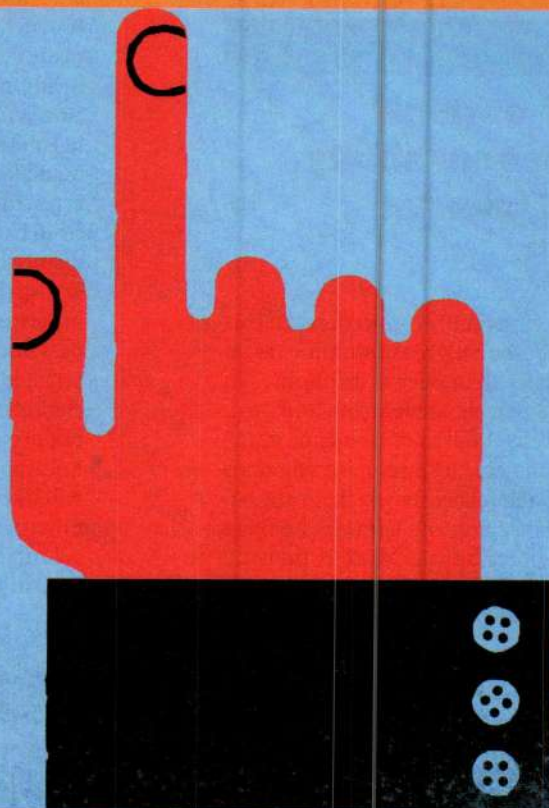
Admissions Reset

Standardized testing and spotting talent

In a reversal of pandemic policy, Brown will reinstate its requirement that applicants for first-year admission supply standardized test scores. Being test-optional "diminishes our ability to identify talented students," said President Christina H. Paxson in a March announcement.

After the U.S. Supreme Court's June 2023 decision to end race-conscious admissions policies, Paxson appointed an ad hoc committee—composed of senior faculty and alumni who are members of Brown's governing body, the Corporation—to evaluate the equity of undergraduate admissions policies. The backdrop to the group's work was a national conversation about the ways colleges and universities demonstrate their commitment to building classes that are diverse by many measures.

"The committee's analysis shows test scores provide valuable information on students' ability



to succeed at Brown,” said Paxson. “Test scores offer an important piece of information among a prevalence of A grades, and for less-resourced high schools that might not offer programs and activities that allow students to distinguish themselves.”

The change will be accompanied by outreach “emphasizing that test scores are interpreted in the context of a student’s background and educational opportunities,” Paxson added. According to Associate Provost for Enrollment and Dean of Admission Logan Powell, there is no minimum test score requirement and “a student with test scores that are below the Brown mean, and yet exceptional in their local context, can still be highly competitive.”

The decision to retain Brown’s early-decision (ED) admissions policy also comes at the committee’s recommendation. Such programs are binding, and there was concern that applicants might not be able to compare financial aid offers to secure the most competitive award. However, Paxson said, “I was persuaded that this does not apply to Brown. Our financial aid offers are very generous.... Brown has consistently high levels of diversity among students admitted in the ED round.”

The committee has yet to reach a recommenda-

Being test-optional “diminishes our ability to identify talented students.”

tion on applicants with family connections, in particular “legacies,” or the children of alumni. Brown admits fewer legacies than peer institutions. “In the Class of 2027, 8 percent are legacies, and 1 to 2 percent every year are children of faculty or staff,” Paxson said. The subject “inspires deep emotions among many ... as the report shows, there are valid reasons for both keeping and eliminating these preferences.” The President’s Office is inviting alumni to weigh in (see *From the President*, p. 1).

“Built to Hold Disagreement”

Balancing student safety and
freedom of speech

A “Gaza solidarity encampment” that formed on the Main Green April 24 ended when student protesters packed up voluntarily on April 30 when President Christina H. Paxson committed to arrange a meeting between five students and members of the Brown Corporation at its May meeting as well as to bring a vote on divesting from “the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory” to the Corporation this fall.

The 90-plus protesters—formally known as the Brown Divest Coalition and made up of several groups, including Jews for Ceasefire Now and Students for Justice in Palestine—had also demanded that the 41 students arrested during an earlier sit-in have their charges dismissed. Paxson refused, saying that she respected protesters’ “conviction and passion,” but that getting arrested was an “informed choice” and part of the practice of civil disobedience. Encampment participants will likewise face disciplinary action, though their voluntary dispersal “will be considered a favorable

mitigating factor.” Any bias, harassment, or discrimination will be investigated.

“Brown has always prided itself on resolving differences through dialogue, debate, and listening to each other,” said Paxson, who sent a letter April 29 that opened negotiations. “Even with this agreement, there remain many differences within our community about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. But, as I have emphasized before, universities were built to hold disagreement and grapple with competing views. This is an essential part of our mission of advancing knowledge and understanding.”

Brown’s encampment was planned within hours of the arrests of over 100 pro-Palestinian student protesters at Columbia University, when student organizers at Brown met over Zoom to discuss how they could show their support. Aboud, a junior who asked that only his first name be used for fear of reprisals, says the answer was obvious: “We needed to replicate it in solidarity.”

At 5:30 a.m. on April 24, less than a week after the arrests at Columbia, Aboud

2024 HONORARY DEGREES



CLAUDIA GOLDIN, WINNER
OF THE 2023 NOBEL PRIZE IN
ECONOMICS, STUDIES GENDER
GAPS IN EARNINGS, EDUCATION,
AND ECONOMIC EQUALITY.



BROWN ARTIST IN RESIDENCE
WILLIAM KENTRIDGE'S
DRAWING, WRITING, MUSIC,
AND FILM WORK ARE GLOBALLY
RENOWNED AND CELEBRATED.



AT PRESS TIME, **ASTRONAUT JESSICA MEIR '99** WAS ANNOUNCED AS THE 2024 BACCALAUREATE SPEAKER. MEIR, PART OF THE FIRST ALL-WOMEN SPACEWALK IN 2019, PLANNED TO TELL GRADUATES "HOW MUCH MORE REWARDING THINGS ARE WHEN YOU FOSTER RELATIONSHIPS WITH MENTORS AND STOP AND REALLY APPRECIATE THOSE MOMENTS."



The encampment on April 24, near the end of a school year marked by discourse and discord.

and about 90 other students began setting up tents on the Main Green. Over the next few days, warm spring weather and showers of pink magnolia petals helped create a festive scene, with Palestinian music playing. At times, protesters started a *dabke*, a form of Palestinian folk dance, kicking their legs and stomping their feet in near unison.

For About, who grew up in Ramallah in Palestine's West Bank, the protest is deeply personal. "My dad and many people in my

family were at different points imprisoned by the Israeli army," he says. He has childhood memories of Israel Defense Forces raids and having to seek shelter to avoid rubber bullets and tear gas.

After the deal to end the encampment was struck, Paxson said, "I hope the meeting between the students and Corporation members will allow for a full and frank exchange of views." She added, "I cannot condone the encampment.... Also, I have been concerned

about the escalation in inflammatory rhetoric that we have seen recently, and the increase in tensions at campuses across the country. I appreciate the sincere efforts on the part of our students to take steps to prevent further escalation."

HUNGER STRIKE

Early in February, 19 Brown students began an "indefinite" hunger strike in the campus center, demanding that the Corporation consider divestment from companies that "profit from human

rights abuses in Palestine." The hunger strike lasted eight days and though the strikers were unsuccessful, they garnered national and international attention.

One of the event's participants, public health grad student Nour Abaherah '24 MPH, called it an empowering experience. Abaherah is a Palestinian American who has engaged in political action for Palestine since attending protests with her parents when she was as young as five. "It felt like for years we were begging peo-



EDUCATOR AND AUTHOR **PEDRO NOGUERA '81, '84 AM**, IS A GOVERNMENT ADVISOR ON ISSUES RELATED TO **RACE, INEQUALITY & EDUCATION**.



JOY HARJO, CHANCELLOR OF THE ACADEMY OF AMERICAN POETS, IS A MEMBER OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION AND THE **FIRST NATIVE AMERICAN U.S. POET LAUREATE**.



PERRY KASPER GRANOFF, NAMESAKE OF BROWN'S GRANOFF CENTER WITH HER HUSBAND MARTY, IS AN **ARTS PHILANTHROPIST AND LEADER**.

As a high school senior, About joined protests around the death of Shireen Abu Akleh, a Palestinian journalist who was shot and killed by an Israeli soldier in 2022.

TO PAGE 12



Under
the
Clouds

Rain fell the first morning. Protesters had to show their student IDs.

ple to care about our issues,” Abaherah says. “Now for the first time, I don’t have to tell people to care.”

NEW JEWISH JOURNAL

On November 7, exactly one month after the Hamas-led attacks on Israel, the *Brown Daily Herald* published an op-ed titled “An Open Letter from Jewish Students.” The op-ed was clear in its support of the Palestinian people and pushed back against “Zionist institutions” that “purport to be representative of all Jews.”

Theodore Horowitz ’24, an international and public affairs major who identifies as a “liberal Zionist,” says it didn’t sit well with him. “It minimized the fears of antisemitism on campus,” he says, “and made statements that I don’t think many of the other Jewish students would make.” He and some friends submitted their own op-ed titled “An Open Letter in Support of Israel, from Jewish Students and Alumni at Brown University.”

Soon after, Horowitz

and a friend started a Jewish newspaper. “We wanted to really showcase Jewish voices,” Horowitz says, “and show the rest of the Brown community what Jewish dialogue is really like.”

The first issue of the *Brown Jewish Journal*—which actively solicits opposing views, Horowitz says—came out March 13 and included work from Jewish visual artists, a personal essay about Yom Kippur, and a restaurant review of a Jewish deli, alongside articles about the rise in antisemitism after the October 7 attack and an opinion piece with the headline “Why do the Jewish People Need a State?”

POLITICS AT DINNER

Early in April, Zoey Fisher ’25 and Asher Radziner ’24 hosted the first of what they hope to be a series of dinners, bringing together Jewish members of the Brown community with a range of political perspectives for a meal and discussion of issues related to Israel and Palestine.

Fisher, who is Jewish and has family in Israel, says she felt disheartened by the atmosphere on campus. “Every aspect of campus life was being taken over by very public aggression,” Fisher says. “All these separate groups were having their own protests and events, but no one was actually coming together and talking about it.”

Radziner, Fisher’s co-host, had been hosting a dinner series for some time called *In Progress*. “Those dinners were not centered

on the topic of Israel and Palestine,” Radziner says. “They were for people who are developing an idea or working on something that they’re passionate about.”

The pair created a short form and shared it among different Jewish groups on campus. They were overwhelmed by the response.

“People were saying, ‘I miss my friends,’” Fisher says.

“It’s been so polarized that we haven’t been together.”

Twelve students attended the first dinner. “Everyone got really into it and went really deep and vulnerable,” Fisher says. “It was a healing tool because you realize that there are events in a person’s life that influence their views and it’s not something you can discount. It’s just something you can learn from.”

—RUSSELL MORSE



DAVID DELPOIC (2)



GRAPHIC DESIGNER **TOM GEISMAR** ’53 HAS CREATED **MANY MEMORABLE LOGOS**: PBS, NYU, NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, MOBIL.



HIT PLAYWRIGHT, AUTHOR & EDUCATOR **SARAH RUHL** ’97, ’01 MFA IS A **MACARTHUR FELLOWSHIP WINNER** AND 2-TIME PULITZER FINALIST.



MARY ELIZABETH AND JEROME C. VASCCELLARO, BOTH CLASS OF ’74, HAVE BEEN LEADERS IN **HIGHLY IMPACTFUL VOLUNTEER INITIATIVES** FOR BROWN.



THE SIMMONS CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF SLAVERY AND JUSTICE IS HOSTING "ART AND THE FREEDOM STRUGGLE: THE WORKS OF MUMIA ABU-JAMAL" TIL JULY 19. THE HAY ACQUIRED ABU-JAMAL'S PAPERS IN 2022 TO ADVANCE RESEARCH ON MASS INCARCERATION AND IS HOSTING AN ACCOMPANYING BIOGRAPHICAL EXHIBIT.

Physics & Belonging

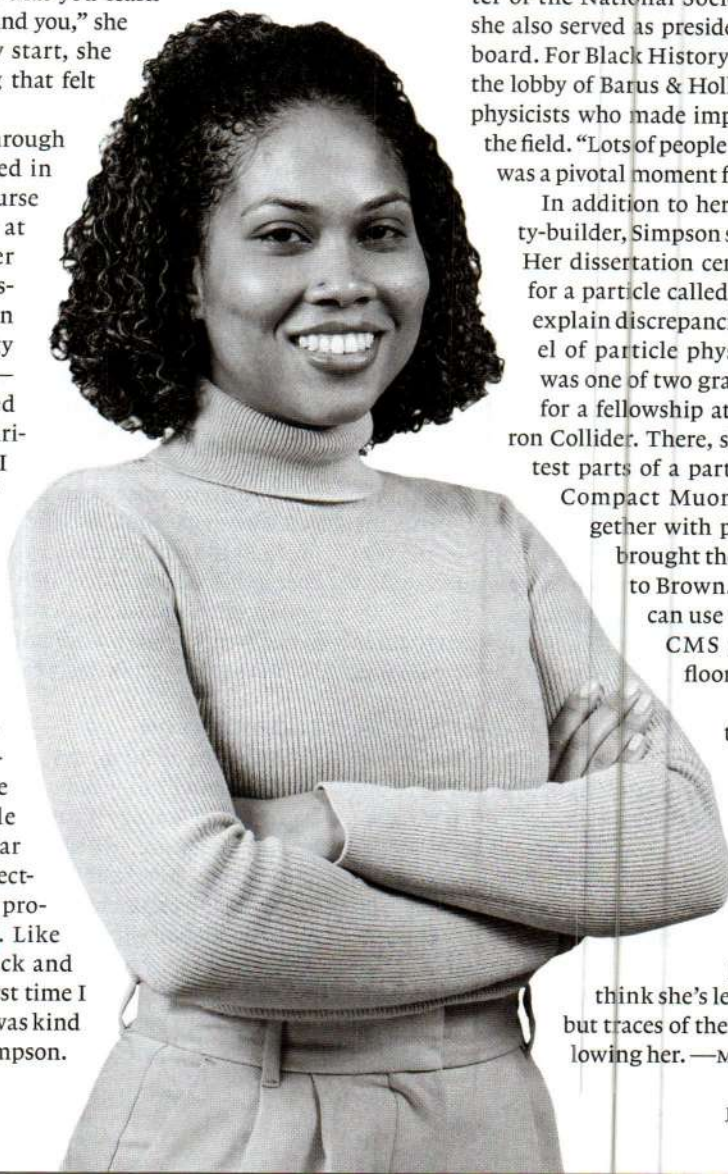
A Black mentor made the difference

This summer, Farrah Simpson '21 ScM, '24 PhD will become the first Black woman to earn a doctorate in physics from Brown. Her path to a PhD began in seventh grade, in her home country of Jamaica. Her engineer father enrolled her older siblings in an applied physics course, and Simpson eagerly tagged along. The instructor "would teach in a way that made everything that you learn connected with what's around you," she remembers. From the very start, she loved studying "something that felt so intuitive."

Her interest persisted through high school, so she enrolled in an introductory physics course during her first semester at Columbia University. Her professor was a particle-physics expert who liked to go on tangents about high-energy experiments. Simpson—who had only ever studied applied physics—felt her curiosity ignite. "Oh, my gosh, I love this. I could see myself doing this for the rest of my life," she thought. She started doing research on condensed matter experimentation, graduating with a physics degree in 2017.

Yet Simpson did not apply to PhD programs, choosing instead to teach science at a New York City middle school. During her first year of teaching, a friend connected her with Brown physics professor **Stephon Alexander**. Like Simpson, Alexander is Black and Caribbean. "That was the first time I met a Black physicist and it was kind of a turning point," says Simpson.

Simpson landed a fellowship at the Large Hadron Collider, bringing new tests to Brown.



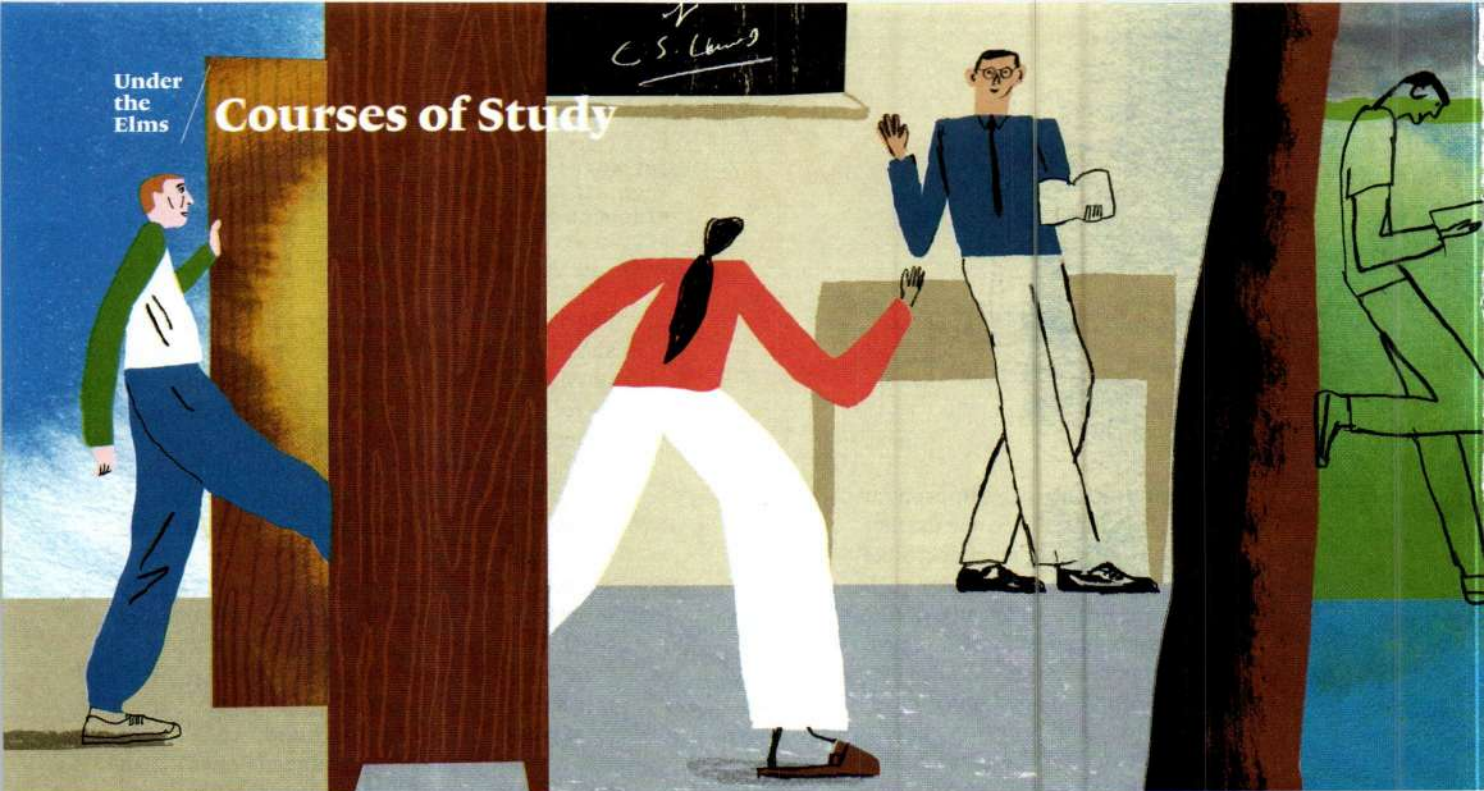
She realized that the main reason she hadn't pursued a PhD was "not being able to see myself as a physicist." She joined Brown's doctoral program in 2018, excited to work with mentors like Alexander and the late Meenakshi Narain.

She says one of Alexander's and Narain's most useful teachings is that the ability to succeed in physics is not inborn. As a younger student, Simpson thought struggling with hard material meant she wasn't cut out for physics. "Whenever I was doing other subjects, that's not how I felt—I just felt like I need to practice, I need to study," she says. "But when you think of physics, you're like 'oh it's just really hard, it's just something I can't do'...a lot of physics is building the confidence."

To that end, Simpson cofounded Brown's chapter of the National Society of Black Physicists; she also served as president of the NSBP student board. For Black History Month, members lined the lobby of Barus & Holley with photos of Black physicists who made important contributions to the field. "Lots of people showed up," she says. "It was a pivotal moment for our group."

In addition to her success as a community-builder, Simpson stands out academically. Her dissertation centers around the search for a particle called $X_{5/3}$ which would help explain discrepancies in the standard model of particle physics. In 2022, Simpson was one of two graduate students selected for a fellowship at Fermilab's Large Hadron Collider. There, she learned new ways to test parts of a particle detector called the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS). Together with postdoc Jingyu Luo, she brought the novel testing methods to Brown. Now Brown physicists can use those techniques to test CMS parts on the seventh floor of Barus & Holley.

Simpson's next destination is Princeton, where she'll serve as a Dicke Fellow. Coincidentally, the CMS hardware she's been testing at Brown is also tested on Princeton's campus. Simpson might think she's leaving Brown physics—but traces of the department will be following her. —MEGAN TALIKOFF'25



Beyond Narnia

A popular course on C.S. Lewis is taught by a trio of deep-thinking MDs. BY CHRISTINE BAEK '25

Walking into the first class of UNIV 0400: Beyond Narnia, infectious disease specialist Timothy Flanigan expected an empty classroom: “I thought, no students are gonna take this course. And no students are gonna take this course taught by a physician.” To his surprise, the room was packed with eager students—*The Chronicles of Narnia* fans plus others interested in Lewis’s philosophy and Christian apologetics.

Fifteen years later, Beyond Narnia has expanded to three sections, taught by Flanigan, an HIV expert; Edward Wing, another infectious disease expert and professor emeritus; and Hannah Wei Wu, a research pediatrician. Reading a novel each week, students submit quotes and thoughts to be read in class. Group activities include a session when, in place of a traditional lecture, they create and host a *Jeopardy!* style game and guided discussion.

Wu audited the course in 2018 and says it changed her in many ways. Not religious at the time, it was Lewis’s apologetics that appealed. “His influence on me was more about the reasoning because I’m such a scientist. I have to know the reason why. I have to have the logic.” Then, in final projects, Wu saw how her peers pushed the boundaries of their creative comfort zone by learning to translate the stories—writing

songs, making movies, and creating picture books and board games based on the fictional land. Hearing their reflections, she realized they were also grappling with difficult questions and growing in understanding.

“I think seeing their lives and perspectives change also made my life change, my heart change,” she says. “Before the class, I’d been focused only on my research. My belief was that you have to use the time efficiently, so I didn’t talk to people much in the lab. But now, with such a group of very young, energetic students, I feel like they light up my heart. They make me feel more human and connected, and they share the joy of everything I am doing.” Wu took on teaching Beyond Narnia’s third section last year.

PRODIGAL SON

An Anglican by birth, C.S. Lewis left the faith, dabbling in the occult and European mythos before returning to Christianity. That journey is part of what Flanigan believes makes Lewis’s literature, which incorporates Christian theology and themes, so accessible.

Lewis’s struggles with faith and loss feature most heavily in his nonfiction works *The Problem of Pain* and *A Grief Observed*, which students read after watching *Shadowlands*, a 1993 biopic on the relationship between Lewis and Joy Davidman. “When Joy Davidman passes away from cancer after their two-year marriage, that grief observed by C.S. Lewis really, really hits



home for a lot of people,” Wing explains. *The Problem of Pain*, written before he knew Davidman, is “this intellectual, fascinating book where he’s trying to explain why bad things happen to good people. And then *A Grief Observed* is this outpouring of emotion. In that book he slowly changes and reconciles with God. So it’s a very intense, emotional set of books.”

One student in Wing’s section last spring, Melanie Kim ’23, remembers the impact *Grief* had on her: “I appreciated how real and vulnerable he was, especially since I had lost my grandma a few months before...I saw somebody else struggling with loss while figuring out how to navigate faith and see God differently.” She cites discussions with fellow students about loss or the afterlife as described in another Lewis book, *The Great Divorce*, as personal highlights of the course.

QUALIFICATIONS OPTIONAL

When he received the offer to coteach, Wing says, “What struck me is that Tim and I have no qualifications whatsoever to teach this course. We’re doctors, we teach medical students and residents.” However, he concedes, “We meet with life and death—but also all human issues—all the time in medicine. So we can relate stories easily in class and to the students.”

Wu finds her own research on parasitic disease allows her to connect with students more deeply. “The reason I went into the medical field was that I wanted to be helpful, to heal people or help people be healthy and happy. But reality tells us that sometimes you can’t.” Perhaps, she says, the Narnia professors are so good at connecting with students precisely because they admit they don’t have all the answers.

Flanigan encourages other Brown professors who are passionate about Lewis to join their ranks: “We would love other faculty from other disciplines to dip their foot in the water... they can coteach one of the weekly sessions with us.”

Madeline Wachsmuth ’25, who took *Beyond Narnia* last spring, found it refreshing that Flanigan was a bit of an aca-

demic outsider, frequently sharing his knowledge on science and medicine with the class: “I think it’s always important when a professor is sharing a part of their life with you,” she says, “because it changes from an impersonal teaching to ‘we’re both humans.’”

While the popularity of *Beyond Narnia* may have surprised him, Flanigan is a firm believer in the magic of reading Lewis, who “understands our humanness so well, and our difficulties—where we get stuck in, how we have to understand ourselves,” he says. Flanigan—who is a permanent deacon in the Catholic Diocese of Providence—also founded the Inklings Project with colleagues at Notre Dame to support new courses and groups countrywide dedicated to the works of Lewis and his friend, J.R.R. Tolkien.

SELECTED READINGS

Out of the Silent Planet This science fiction novel is the first of Lewis’s *The Space Trilogy*. Revisiting C.S. Lewis in his forties after enjoying *The Chronicles of Narnia* as a child, Dr. Flanigan credits this series, and its themes of finding reality and truth within the cosmos, as the inspiration for the course.

The Screwtape Letters One of Lewis’s Christian apologetics, this satire explores Christian theology through letters between a junior and senior demon, who mentors the former in the temptation and damnation of souls. Lewis dedicated it to fellow Oxford contemporary and frequent interlocutor J.R.R. Tolkien, author of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*.

The Problem of Pain This book delves into the role of evil in a world where God, in accordance with Christian belief, is both divinely good and omnipotent. Here Lewis recounts his former atheistic views and eventual faith journey.



Brown economist
John Friedman outside his
Robinson Hall office.

Affirmative Action for Rich Kids

An economist's research shows how Ivy-plus schools favor wealthy applicants. BY NOBLE BRIGHAM '24 & JACK BROOK '19

The Ivy League and its brethren—the highly selective private institutions known as the Ivy-plus—have always had the reputation of catering to the wealthy. But a 2023 study by Brown Economics Chair John N. Friedman reveals just how much of an advantage rich kids are likely to get when they apply to one of the eight Ivies or to Stanford, MIT, Duke, or the University of Chicago.

At a time when colleges are still working through their responses to the Supreme Court's ruling declaring race-conscious admissions unconsti-

tutional, Friedman and his colleagues at the Opportunity Insights lab, Harvard's Raj Chetty and David J. Deming, found children from very wealthy families are getting a clear admissions boost. The net effect: Ivy-plus schools are effective at ensuring rich and powerful families stay that way since leadership roles in the U.S. are disproportionately filled by their graduates.

For instance, applicants from families in the top 1 percent (earning \$611,000-plus a year) are twice as likely to be admitted to an Ivy-plus college as students from middle class families with similar test scores. And the study makes it clear that these rich kids are not more academically prepared. They're

getting accepted because they have an edge in three key indices: legacy preferences, athletic recruitment, and non-academic credentials like extracurriculars and recommendation letters—none of which predict how well students do afterward, according to Friedman's study.

"The opportunity to attend these universities is something that puts students on the fast track toward these different leadership positions in society," Friedman observes. "Our study is about placing upward mobility more at the core of what institutions are doing."

The research was based on tax records, standardized test scores, and anonymized internal admissions records from Ivy-plus schools. Participating

3/4

PROPORTION OF SUPREME COURT JUSTICES APPOINTED DURING THE LAST HALF CENTURY WHO GRADUATED FROM IVY-PLUS SCHOOLS. A QUARTER OF U.S. SENATORS AND 10 PERCENT OF FORTUNE-500 CEOs ALSO ATTENDED ONE OF THE HIGHLY SELECTIVE PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS.

universities were promised anonymity, and the study does not give findings for any schools individually.

PRIVATE SCHOOL ADVANTAGES

Marco Lima '27 attended a Providence high school that, he says, lacked funding and had only a small number of Advanced Placement classes.

"Many students had to work to support their families," Lima says. "That's maybe equal value to a student who has joined 10 different clubs. It shows dedication."

Friedman's study discovered that admissions offices are essentially biased against applicants from public schools, even when they are academically prepared based on their standardized test scores and academic course load. That's because admissions officers give out higher ratings for non-academic traits like leadership potential to students who attended secular private high schools. Applicants from these schools—favored by the wealthy—are twice as likely to be admitted as those from affluent public high schools.

"There's a cost to families of many of the extracurricular activities that students bring to their college application portfolios—excelling in those kinds of activities is dollar intensive and time intensive for families," observes Annenberg Associate Professor of Education Policy Lindsay Page.

A second study from Opportunity Insights, published in January, found that standardized testing is a better way to predict how academically successful a student will be in college, in addition to after graduation. Brown announced in March that it will reinstitute admissions testing (*see story, p. 9*).

LEGACIES OF WEALTH

Alex Shieh '27's father went to Brown and the freshman still wonders whether he got in because of his own accomplishments. "There's sort of an imposter syndrome—nobody can walk up to me and say 'you would have gotten into Brown if you hadn't been a lega-

cy,'" Shieh says. "I think that's unfair. And when you have so many qualified people, you can't be tipping the scales in favor of certain groups."

Shieh, known on campus for his outspoken opposition to affirmative action of all kinds, believes admissions should be based entirely on merit.

Legacy preferences account for nearly half of high-income students' admissions advantage, the study found. Legacies from 1-percent families are more than five times as likely to be admitted as students with comparable test scores.

Brown did not comment on whether Brown's admissions results align with the study's findings, but it is currently weighing whether to end legacy preferences. Brown admits fewer legacies than many other Ivies; a 2022 *Harvard Crimson* study, for instance, found that 36 percent of the Harvard class of 2022 were legacies. In Brown's class of 2027, 8 percent are legacies, and the University is hearing from alums with strong feelings both for and against the practice, said spokesperson Brian Clark. "Brown enrolls exceptionally talented students from all socioeconomic backgrounds, and we have significantly strengthened our ability to do so over the last decade through a series of transformative new financial aid measures," Clark says. An ad hoc committee of faculty and alumni has been studying undergraduate admissions "to ensure they uphold our commitments to academic excellence, access, and diversity," he added; legacies "raise complicated questions about access, merit, and unearned advantage, and also about benefits like lifelong affinity, philanthropic support, loyalty, and community. Our goal is to reach a decision based on data and input from the community."

NOT SO EQUITABLE ATHLETICS

Sophie Forstner '24 played for a traveling lacrosse team in high school and realized the people who got recruited by colleges were not necessarily the best players. While there's a belief that ath-

letics provide a path to education for underserved youth, Forstner says this isn't the situation in the Ivy League.

"I saw people who went to college for sports, not because of their skill, but because they were paying to go to the best tournaments," Forstner says. "On a high school team, it's so much about knowing the right people and going to the right events to be seen. It's making even those sports that were previously seen as more accessible paths to college, much less accessible."

Friedman's study finds the nation's richest families do indeed benefit from athletic recruitment.

An education studies concentrator, Forstner used her senior thesis to investigate the campus diversity impact of a 2020 initiative modestly reducing the number of varsity sports teams at Brown. She found that for changes in athletics recruitment to expand the socioeconomic spectrum of students on campus, "you'd have to go a lot further, like cutting several hundred athletes."

A less drastic way to deal with the issue could be for schools like Brown to consciously recruit less affluent players, Friedman argues. Brown is also looking at admissions for athletes.

SHAPING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

While Ivy-Plus students are a tiny part of the population—they number less than half of one percent of all Americans—they account for a disproportionate share of society's leaders.

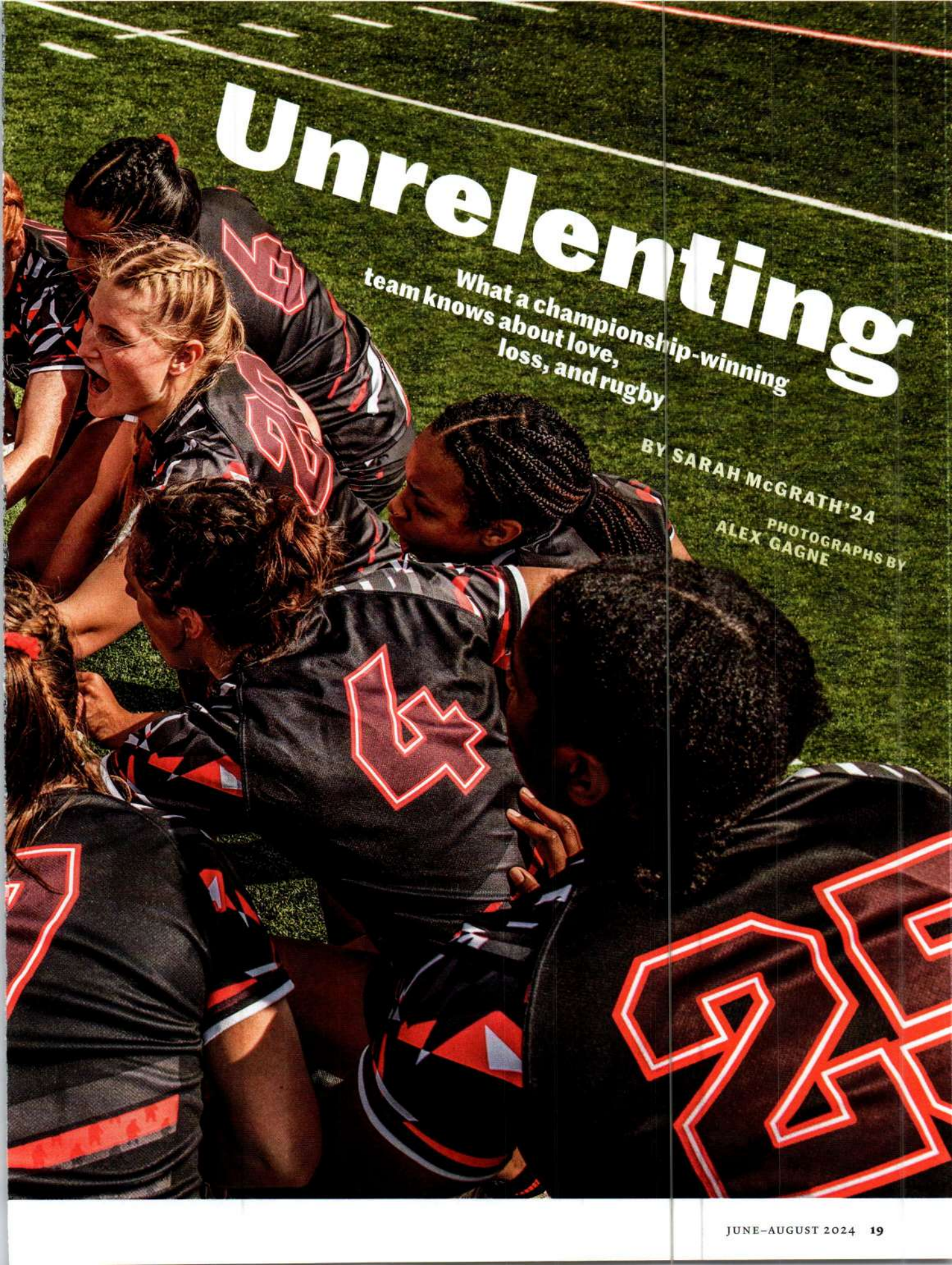
If admissions became a level playing field, around 145 less affluent but equally qualified students could be admitted to each Ivy-plus college, Friedman's study claims. That's about the same increase in socioeconomic diversity as race-conscious admissions offered.

"A handful of highly selective colleges have the capacity to change the backgrounds of society's leaders meaningfully," Friedman argues, "an outcome of particular significance given that leaders' personal backgrounds and experiences shape decisions that influence many people's lives."

Page's research also indicates that wealthy alumni parents generally stop giving if their child is not admitted to their alma mater.

Members of the Brown women's
rugby team—two-time CRC 7s national
champs—get ready to rumble.





Unrelenting

What a championship-winning team knows about love, loss, and rugby

BY SARAH McGRATH '24

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
ALEX GAGNE



f there's one thing to know about the Brown Rugby team, it's that its members love the Brown Rugby team. In fact, it's a truth so universally acknowledged amongst the Division 1 team's players that it's become the program's signature cheer. "I LOVE," Morgan Cunningham '24, the team's captain, often yells. "THIS TEAM," the other players will reply in unison.

It's a lovefest that's driven victories on the pitch. Last April, the players secured the program's first Women's Premier Collegiate Rugby National 7s Championship title after a nail-biting 21-19 victory over Army. Fast forward to the following October: now in the back half of the fall 15s season, the team is gearing up for another home game tomorrow during Brown's annual Family Weekend. This time they're up against Penn State, one of the most competitive teams in Division 1.

It's 63 and sunny when the team gathers at the Berylson Family Fields: at least for the next several hours of practice, the players are preparing for war. At 3:15 on the dot, a voice interrupts Fleetwood Mac, whose album has been blasting during the warmup. Short, resolute, and smiley, Head Coach Rosalind Chou is dressed for today's practice in a Brown T-shirt and white baseball cap.

"Come on in, everybody," she shouts, as the players begin gathering around. A Brown professor of sociology now in the tenth year of her coaching career, Coach Chou knows a thing or two about group dynamics—in the classroom, in the locker room, on the pitch. And with "Go Your Own Way" now paused, today's practice can officially begin.

For the most part, rugby lives up to its image—rowdy players, tackles, mud. Earlier in the week, forwards prepped for offense with Assistant Coach Kittery Wagner Ruiz while frequently yelling the word *domination!* Meanwhile, backs worked on defensive skills with Assistant Coach Bridget Kahele, donning mouth guards to brace for collisions.

Beyond domination, however, rugby's extreme physicality also requires the absolute focus of its players—their complete synchronization—to succeed. Rugby is the only full contact sport to have the exact same rules for men and women. As a result, players put their bodies on the line for their teammates; vulnerability is the fabric of the game. This intensity breeds a certain bond, Brown's players will tell you. One that extends far beyond the pitch.

FEEL HARD, WORK HARDER

There's a lot of crying in rugby.

In fact, during the season, you can expect the Brown varsity women's rugby team to host a good communal cry session approximately once a week, typically on the eve of each game. This Friday is no different. It's about an hour after practice when the team reconvenes inside the Olney-Margolies Athletic Center. Yet again, Coach Chou calls her players

A group of rugby players are in a scrum on a green field. They are wearing black jerseys with red and white patterns and black shorts. The players are huddled together, pushing against each other. In the background, there is a basketball hoop, a blue tent, and trees. The field has a large red and white logo in the center.

Spring practice. Rugby is played 7-a-side in spring, while the more standard 15-a-side games take place in the fall.

THE SCRUM IS LESS than a minute of pure, concentrated effort. Beyond force, it's a contest of balance. "We try to emulate each other's energy and become not eight people but one."



to attention: it's time for the jersey ceremony.

The ceremony has become a bit of a weekly ritual for the team, stemming from an old rugby tradition. Unlike most team sports, in rugby, each number corresponds to a position, not a player. Nobody's name is on the back of a jersey, Coach Chou explains to a group of visiting parents. You don't own your jersey; you have to earn it each week.

There is a singular exception, however: Flores, number 8.

It's the name and number printed on each player's warmup jersey, which the team wears to each weekend's game. This is because, as the team's players, coaches, and alumnae will often tell you, former head coach Kathy Flores unequivocally remains the beating heart of Brown rugby: as a coach, as a mentor, as a friend, even as the namesake for the head coach's official title. It was Flores, a star player at the first Women's Rugby World Cup in 1991 and former head coach of the U.S. women's national team, who oversaw Brown women's rugby's transition from club to varsity status when she first joined the program in 2013. She served as head coach for the next eight years, even during her year-long battle with colon cancer. Flores passed away from the disease in October 2021 at 66. Now, two years later, her legacy remains ever-present; among players, "For Kathy" is a mantra.

During the jersey ceremony each week, the players typically honor a chosen theme. Last week was dedicated to LGBTQ+ pride, while next week's gathering will commemorate the anniversary of Flores's death. ("Sometimes you're

just crying for half an hour," Chou tells me.) In the varsity lounge this afternoon, however, the players' moods lean lively. Today's ceremony is a nod to Family Weekend. One by one, each player is called forward to say a word that encompasses what family means to them.

"Synergy," says one player. "Presence," says another. *Acceptance. Loyalty. Purpose.* Each time a new player goes up to share, the room explodes with a chorus of shouted nicknames, cheers, and applause. Crying or laughing—on the pitch or on the sidelines—Brown rugby is a team that feels, hard.

"No one cares, work harder," reads the text on the back of each warmup jersey—a classic Flores quote, and Brown rugby's general approach to the game.

BRING YOUR STRENGTH, NOT YOUR DIET

Earlier that week, I spent a large portion of Tuesday's practice sitting in the end zone with a group of players I'd heard Emme Ohnmacht '25, the team's manager, lovingly refer to as the "injury squad." For a sport as physically demanding as rugby, injuries are somewhat to be expected. They're part of what keeps Nyrel Stroup, the team's athletic trainer, so busy. (Injuries also keep the job exciting, he tells me—for him, it's rugby or he'll walk.)

While most players on the team are lifelong athletes, they're not necessarily lifelong rugby players. For one player, before rugby it was field hockey; for another it was dance. One played soccer, one ran track, and another competed in figure



Players are told the hardest tackle they ever receive should come from a teammate during practice.

skating. Students in the U.S.—particularly women—aren’t often exposed to rugby early on. It’s why most players, even some of the best in the country, come to rugby relatively late.

This is a unique position for a D1 varsity team. Most of the team’s recruited athletes have been playing for only a few years, and the rest of the team joined the program as walk-ons, many of whom hadn’t played rugby before coming to Brown. “Imagine asking someone to join the swim team who’s never swum before—to be an NCAA Division 1 swimmer,” Chou says. “You’d drown, right?”

But it’s exactly that “walk-on mentality” that defines the ethos of the sport, Coach Chou argues. Case in point: Trinity Williams ’26 never envisioned herself playing a sport in college, much less playing rugby. But then classmate Noelle Lewis ’24 introduced her to the game. “I’m five-one. I have never done any kind of contact sport in my life,” Williams remem-

bers telling her. But Lewis reassured her that rugby, as Coach Chou says, is for everyone: there’s a position designed for each build of player. Wings like Williams tend to be short and fast. Props are generally large and commanding. Locks skew muscular and tall.

“You could be tall, you can be shorter, you could be slim, you could be muscular,” says Coach Chou. “Everybody is celebrated in rugby.” For all players, physical strength is viewed as an asset, rather than something to be feared. It’s a fact that’s particularly meaningful for college-aged women, a group that often receives the opposite message. Up to 84 percent of college athletes report engaging in disordered eating behaviors; among female athletes in particular, this mindset disproportionately manifests as restriction.

“We challenge all these things because if you’re gonna win a collision, you need as much weight as possible,” says Chou. “You need as much muscle as possible.” In rugby, players are valuable because of their size, not in spite of it.

The sport’s full-contact nature requires players to consistently push the boundaries of their athleticism, to build up their capabilities to new heights. Rugby is a chance to do something hard every day, Williams tells me during Tuesday’s practice. For players of all sizes, the emphasis is on gaining strength, building skill, and digging deep.

Today’s walk-on philosophy isn’t so different from how things were in the beginning. Brown’s first club women’s rugby team was founded in the 1970s. “You don’t have to

“IF YOU’RE GONNA WIN a collision, you need as much weight as possible... You need as much muscle as possible.” In rugby, players are valuable because of their size, not in spite of it.

weigh 300 pounds, be monosyllabic, have a heavy voice, and drink beer for breakfast,” club captain Clare Pouncey ’87 told the *Brown Daily Herald* in 1985. “But if someone like that came out, we’d take them.”

SCRUMS AND CROCKPOTS

It’s early on Saturday morning when the players return to the Berylson Family Fields. It’s yet another remarkably sunny day on College Hill, while overnight the air has grown crisp. On the walk towards the bleachers, the Brown band can be heard warming up in the distance, practicing for the football game that will take place later that day.

Just past the end zone, I spot a group of parents setting up for yet another weekly ritual, this time a global rugby tradition dating back to some of the earliest days of the sport: the post-game meal. Over the years, it’s become customary for opposing teams to share a meal together after each match, Jania Vandevoorde ’25 explains. “During those 80 minutes when we’re playing them, it’s a war,” she says. “But after we finish, we’re best friends with them.”

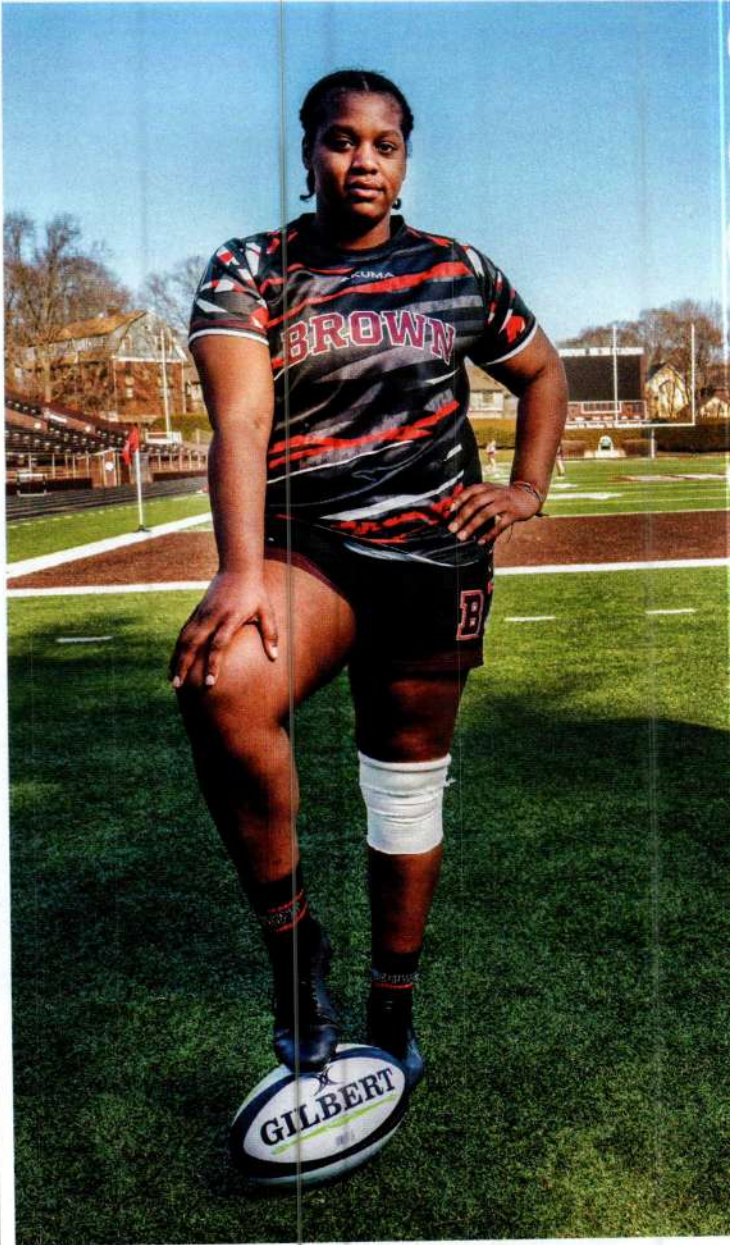
There on the field I first meet Erinn Harley-Lewis, holding onto a massive bowl of pasta salad. The mother of senior Nolle, Harley-Lewis is the official unofficial rugby team mom, who spearheads culinary preparations for each home game with the help of Terry Mahoney, the dad of junior Elizabeth. There is one slight complication. Harley-Lewis and her family live in Northern Virginia, approximately 425 miles from Providence. It hasn’t stopped her yet.

During the season, Harley-Lewis leaves Virginia on Thursday nights to make the drive up I-95 towards New England with a car full of pre-prepped ingredients (if she gets lucky enough to beat traffic, the drive can be done in seven hours, but most of the time it takes eight). The main prep begins on Friday. Harley-Lewis sometimes slow-cooks meat throughout the night, or wakes up at three or four the following morning to prepare enough food to feed two hungry rugby teams, their families, and spectators—all in her hotel room kitchenette.

With the preparations for today’s feast now securely stashed past the end zone, the game can officially begin. It isn’t yet five minutes after kickoff when the players first set up for a scrum.

The scrum is a defining feature of rugby: the “little wrestling match” that restarts play, often after the ball is fumbled forwards, Nat Phonwiang ’27 explains (in rugby, the ball can legally be passed backward only). When a scrum is called, eight players from each team weave together to form two massive opposing huddles, with two players, called hookers, at the helm. The ball is then dropped between them, prompting each group to press forward in an attempt to push the opposing team back.

The scrum is less than a minute of pure, concentrated effort. Beyond force, it’s a contest of balance. “We try to emulate each other’s energy and become not eight people but one,” ex-



plains Vandevoorde. “One plus one equals three,” adds Nikki Lynch ’24. Teamwork is more than just an athletic strategy, the players argue; coaction is the essence of the game.

“There is a culture of family in all rugby,” says Coach Kitt. It’s intensely combative, but rugby is also defined by camaraderie. Even today, the world of women’s rugby is small, and it’s not uncommon for players to know several members of the opposing team during matches. The relative insularity has allowed the sport’s customs to thrive behind the scenes.

For Coach Chou, the come-as-you-are mindset was one of the first things to attract her to the game, along with rugby’s reputation as a hub of queer culture. When Chou first began college as a member of the Florida State softball team, she recalls a level of normalized secrecy—an expectation to keep your sexuality hidden. “People painfully hiding who they were, not wanting to come out,” she recalls.

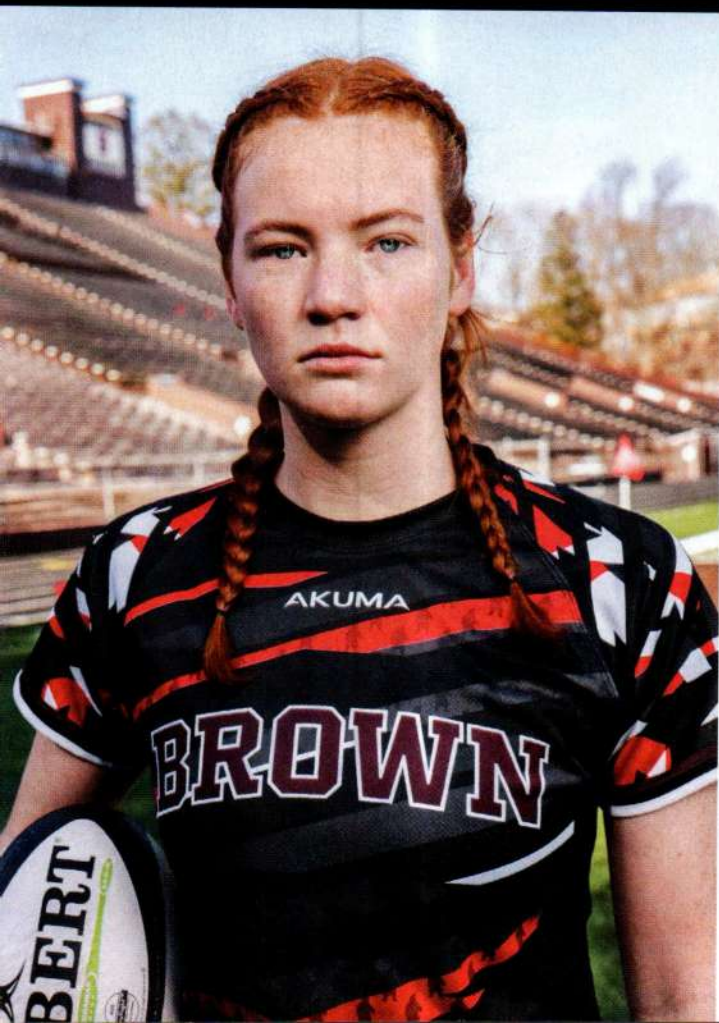
That all changed when she joined the FSU rugby team as a junior. Her first coach was openly out as gay, and so were many of her teammates. As a young, questioning queer person at a time when LGBTQ+ acceptance was far from wide-

Reigning Champs of 7s

In April, Brown women's rugby took home its second consecutive Collegiate Rugby Championship 7s (CRC) national title.

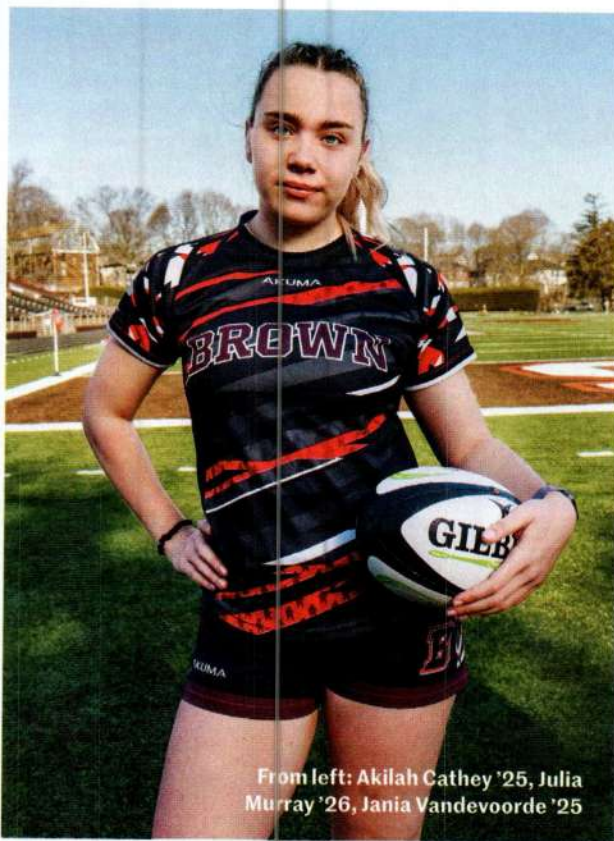
They've been on a roll since joining D1 in 2021 under former coach Flores, concluding that fall season with a 4-3-1 record before placing third in the 2022 spring Ivy 7s championship, led by former assistant coach Christine Newcomb. Under the leadership of coach Chou the following year, the team earned an 18-7-1 record across the 2022-23 seasons and secured its first CRC title.

Last fall, the team defeated top competitor Penn State during the October 15 match described in these pages with a final score of 31-17 before falling to Dartmouth the following weekend. In April, the team finished second at the Crimson 7s tournament and third at Ivy 7s, then successfully defended its CRC title in Washington, D.C.



spread, this form of open representation was world-shifting. Her experience isn't unique—rugby has historically had a prominent queer presence, and on the international level, there's a long tradition of forming explicitly gay rugby teams. "Everything's gay about rugby," Phonwiang laughs. "On previous teams, I had trouble finding people who were like me and when I came to rugby they immediately clocked me."

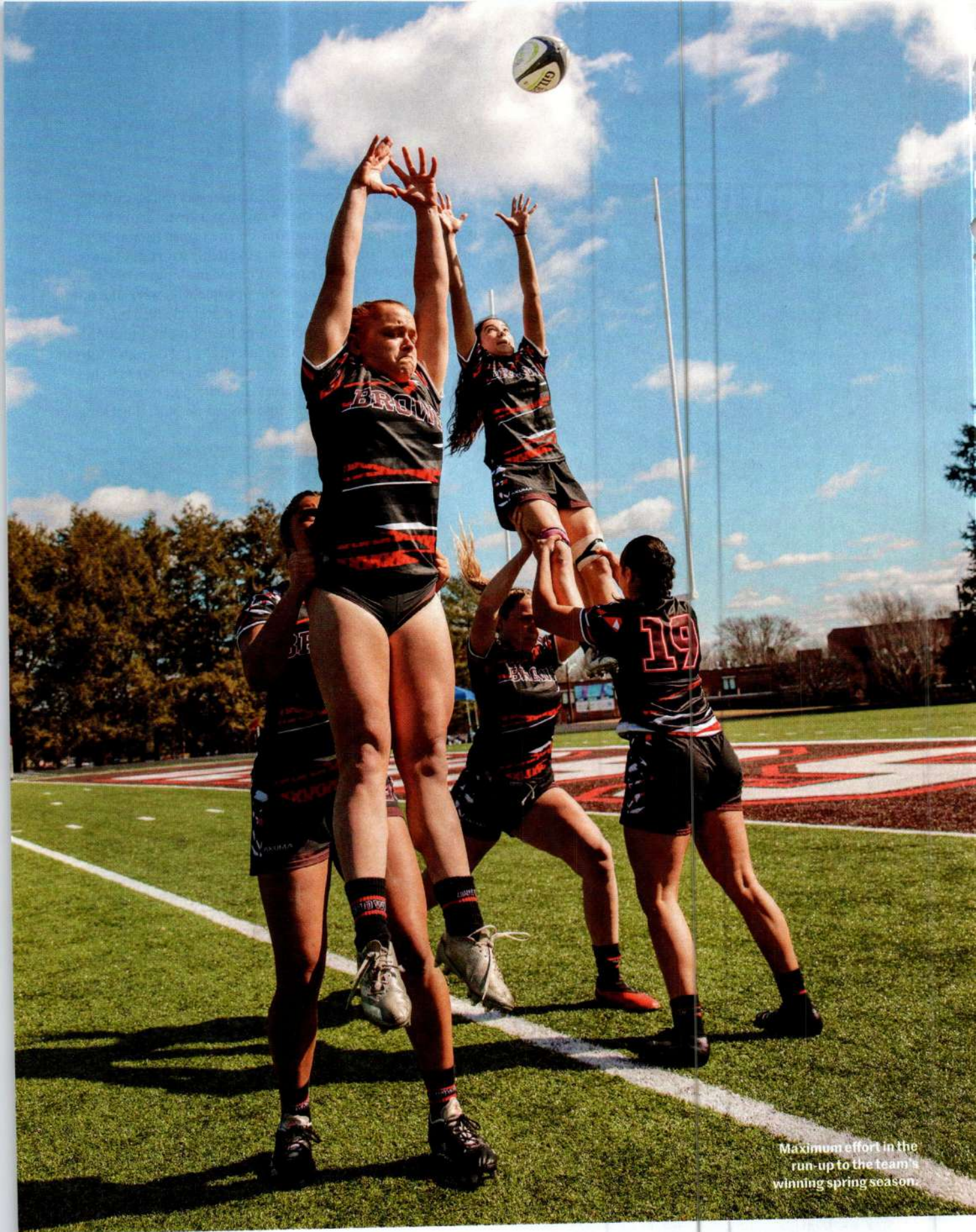
Players of all sexual orientations have long had to counter gendered expectations. After all, rugby is far from traditionally feminine. The first recorded women's rugby matches date back to the mid-19th century. Even in 1991, however, the first women's Rugby World Cup received no official backing



From left: Akilah Cathey '25, Julia Murray '26, Jania Vandevoorde '25

from the International Rugby Board, and the winning U.S. national team had to design and sell T-shirts to help cover the tournament's expenses. Long ignored—or disregarded as spectacle—recognition has often come late for women's rugby players. It wasn't until 2009 that the board officially acknowledged the '91 World Cup, and not until 2014 that the first woman was inducted into the World Rugby Hall of Fame. (Flores was inducted posthumously in 2022.)

For Brown's players, standing in opposition to this history can itself be a motivating factor. "You always get that eyebrow raise," says Lynch. "I think that's really what motivates me."



Maximum effort in the run-up to the team's winning spring season.

The more mainstream recognition women's rugby attracts, particularly on the professional level, the more women become exposed to the game. World Rugby notes that a quarter of players globally are women, up 53 percent in the past year.

BETTER HUMANS

Coach Chou's academic work forms the foundation of her coaching philosophy. As a critical race theory scholar currently writing a book about the queer experience on college campuses, there aren't many boundaries between the issues her players experience in real life and the academic theories she teaches in the classroom. While coaching at Life University, she and her students led protests against the anti-trans "bathroom bills" being proposed in Florida at the time. At Brown, the coaches have made it a point not to hide their queer identities or shy away from difficult conversations as a team—whether it's women's health, the 2021 Atlanta spa shootings, or the murder of George Floyd. "Coaching is teaching, teaching is coaching," she says. And the wider world is the center of both.

It's another lesson that comes back to Flores.

"Kathy understood where I was coming from and how it was going to be a big transition," says Akilah Cathey '25, whom Flores recruited to the team. A sought-after player in high school, Cathey was weighing a few competitive recruitment offers. But it was Flores who made Brown stand out. The two talked candidly about race and identity—and how students of color like Cathey often struggle to find space at predominantly white institutions such as Brown, and as players within the wider world of rugby. "First you get that rugby is a white sport and then you get that rugby is a male-dominated sport," Cathey explains.

When Cathey first came to Brown, Flores, who was of Filipino and Hawaiian descent, encouraged her to connect with the Third World Transition Program, an orientation program led by the Brown Center for Students of Color. "It's good to see people look like you," Flores told her at the time. "Just because you're at a PWI [predominantly white institution] doesn't mean you should hide your identity." Today, Cathey pays this mentorship forward by being a voice for younger players, particularly those of color, who join the program. "The people of color on the team, we truly have our own community and our own support," says Williams.

Having grown up as the only Asian student on her high-school basketball and softball teams, Coach Chou has experienced this same isolation first-hand. And just as for Flores, it now informs her strategy as a coach. Since gaining varsity status, Brown's coaches have used the program's additional funding and recruiting capacity to increase the racial and socioeconomic diversity of Brown's team over the past decade. Beyond the roster, Coach Chou is thoughtful about how she shapes the team's culture. "I want you to be a better human being off the field and I also want you to be a better human being on the field, to your teammates," she says. "The more

THIS INTENSITY REQUIRES a baseline of trust, the players argue. It all comes back to that common refrain. "We're literally putting our bodies on the line for each other every single day at practice," says Vandevoorde.

you have this space of support, the better your team's going to be, whether you win on the scoreboard or not."

BODIES IN MOTION

The team is down 10-5 at halftime, and the air on the sidelines is tense. "Think of two things you want to do differently in this half than the last half," Captain Cunningham tells her teammates before the second half begins. As she chants "Triple B on three," each player sticks a hand in the huddle. "BOLD, BEAUTIFUL BEASTS OF BROWN," the team replies, before running back onto the pitch.

Beautiful rugby means thinking strategically, Cunningham later tells me: thinking smart, playing proud, hitting low. Good tackles are low tackles, Coach Chou adds: "If you are lower and have a lower center of gravity, you'll also have a better collision."

Weathering tackles isn't just a contest of strength, however—players need agility, strategy, endurance, and speed. In football, when a player goes down, the entire stadium pauses. In rugby, everyone else keeps vying for the ball. That means when a player is tackled, she needs to know how to fall. The goal, Coach Chou explains, is to remain moving when you catch the ball; this prepares you to fall forward, which pushes the defending team back. "When we're talking about physics and bodies in motion, you know the one that's static is going to lose," says Chou.

In order to perfect this strategy, you want the hardest tackles to come from your teammates during practice—not from the opposing team during games. And that kind of intensity requires a baseline of trust, the players say. It all comes down to a common refrain. "It's about putting your body on the line for the person next to you," says Cunningham on one occasion. "We're literally putting our bodies on the line for each other every single day at practice," says Vandevoorde on another. "You are putting your life on the line in some ways, and these people become your closest family," Coach Chou tells me. The Brown rugby team, it seems, speaks a shared language, and on the pitch it hits with one arm. When that whistle blows, each player goes into battle knowing her teammates are there by her side.

It's less than five minutes into the second half when Akilah Cathey ties up the game. This time, it's the crowd in the stands that explodes.

Sarah McGrath '24 was a senior editor at the Brown Political Review. She just completed a nonfiction writing honors thesis chronicling the rise and (relative) fall of BuzzFeed. She is not particularly athletic.



**Miriam
Silverman
took her first
Broadway
bow the day
after her
mother died.
A couple of
months
later, she
took home a
Tony.**

**BY ALIX
SOBLER '01**

**PHOTOGRAPHY BY
SHINA PENG**

n
o
i
t
a
—
o v



he wasn't used to the applause upon entering. As a professional stage actor for two decades, Miriam Silverman '01, '05 MFA, had come to expect applause at the end of the play. Then suddenly she was entering to an ovation, after winning a Tony last June for Best Featured Actress in a Play for her role in the Broadway revival of Lorraine Hansberry's *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window*. "It was thrilling," says Miriam. "But like so much of this experience, it was complicated."

On the eve of the show's opening, her mom, Anita Silverman, had died. "I don't subscribe to the ethos of 'the show must go on at any cost,'" Miriam says. "Actors are people. But I was in pain all day long anyway. This at least gave me a chance to do something I loved each night."

Anita had been one of her daughter's biggest supporters. "When we did the first production in Chicago in 2016," Miriam remembers, "my oldest had just turned two. My mom and dad basically came out to live with me for a month to help with childcare. I never would have been able to do it without them."

Then early last year, *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window* was scheduled for a remount at the Brooklyn Academy of

Music, starring Oscar Isaac and Rachel Brosnahan. With that kind of star power, the chances of the show moving to Broadway were strong and Anita shared the excitement even as she was hospitalized with a respiratory illness. "I had a fitting around the time she went into the hospital and shared pictures of my revised costume," Miriam says. "The whole experience held special memories for all of us, not just because I got to be a part of a brilliant play, but because of the moment it marked in our lives."

As the remount began taking shape, things in the hospital took a turn for the worse. "My mom had to be put on a ventilator. My dad pulled me aside and said, 'I know you, and if things go badly, you will feel like you should quit, but don't. Your mom and I know how much this show means to you. She would want you to do it.'"

A HIGH-SCHOOL SOPHIE'S CHOICE

Miriam always wanted to be an actor. But her path hasn't always been straight or easy. Her first hard choice was back in 8th grade. She had been accepted into two highly selective New York public high schools: La Guardia—the performing arts school made

**She fails with aplomb.
She suffers with depth.
She's gorgeously
imperfect, and it's part
of the reason she can
embody such a wide
range of roles.**

famous in the movie *Fame*—and Bronx Science, one of the top academic schools in the city. Entering La Guardia meant committing the bulk of her energy and education to arts training. Meanwhile, Bronx Science had no theater program whatsoever. "It felt very much like choosing between two paths," she said. "And I guess that is exactly what it was." She chose Bronx Science.

At Brown she returned to theater with a vengeance. I met Miriam shortly after I arrived at Brown in January 1997 as a mid-year student. I knew I was going to be a theater major, and she was already "the one to watch" in the small but competitive department. Within weeks of arriving, she had auditioned and been cast in the faculty-directed mainstage production of Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia*—a rare feat for a first-year student. It was all the more impressive considering it was to be her first full-length play. To most people, 18 years old doesn't sound like a late start at anything, but for those of us who had grown up doing children's theater on weekends and spending our summers in the dark rooms of theater camp, 18 seemed positively geriatric to be doing a full-length play for the first time.

After that first role, Miriam's col-

lege career was up and running, and a few weeks after my arrival, so was our friendship. We did musicals together, took scene study, and even both got spots in the coveted Solo Performance class taught by then-faculty member Lowry Marshall.

But in a time of life when many of us were obsessed with dreams of stardom, Miriam was being led by a different north star. She was an East Asian Studies major at Brown, and when many of us went abroad to study Shakespeare, she took a year to live in Hong Kong and explore mainland China. Despite that, she moved effortlessly between student and faculty productions, straight plays and musicals, and even writing and acting. She enrolled in every theater class available (minus the technical classes required for the major). She was serious about it all, but she also knew how to have fun. We spent many late nights gossiping and dancing at her place on John Street. After graduation and a gap year, she took a chance and joined the inaugural class of the Brown/Trinity Rep Consortium.

"I wanted to perform, but I was also always so practical. I wanted to be a working actor," she says. "When I was training and working with people who



Silverman, left, and Rachel Brosnahan in *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window* at New York's James Earl Jones Theater.

were actually doing it for a living, I broadened my understanding of what it meant to 'do well' in the industry. I wanted to have longevity in my career and also have a life."

THE LONG ROAD TO BECOMING AN OVERNIGHT SENSATION

While the graduate program at Brown/Trinity looked promising, it did not yet boast the reputation it has now. Joining the very first class came with a fair amount of risk. "I got out of graduate school with excellent training and al-

most no connections," she says. "I was going to have to find my own way."

She embarked on an impressive regional career, working at esteemed theaters such as the Guthrie, Arena Stage, and Shakespeare Theatre. "I had more offers for regional theater than I could ever do," she remembers. She met and married fellow actor Adam Green (Harvard '99), and together they even considered making the move permanently to D.C., where both of them were finding work consistently. But both she and Green are from New York.

At a time of life when many of us were obsessed with dreams of stardom, Miriam was being led by a different north star.

"Our families are here, and we knew we wanted kids," she remembers. "But also, I did feel like I belonged in New York. I wanted to be part of the conversation that was happening here."

Her first big break into that conversation came when she was cast in the Page 73 production of Clare Barron's *You Got Older* in 2014. It was her first project with Anne Kauffman, a director with whom she would come to collaborate frequently, and who would go on to cast her in *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window*. "That was a real turning point for me," she says. "I felt like I had finally cracked into that New York new play world I really wanted to be a part of."

ON BEING JEWISH AND PLAYING AN ANTISEMITE

Miriam's interest in social justice and identity as a Jewish artist has made the attention to her role in *Sidney* all the more interesting. Mavis, the uptight, wealthy, judgmental sister-in-law of the title character, is also a blatant racist and antisemite. She is also a compelling character, and Miriam mined her two major scenes to find dimension, depth, and some brilliant comedic moments. "I think there is something wonderful and subversive about it," she says about her casting in the role. "A lot of directors would have written me off at face value, but (director) Anne (Kauffman) saw that I was the right actor for the role." Throughout her career, Miriam has been drawn to characters who embody the innate contradictions that come with being a living, breathing human being. "I'm interested in all the oppositional forces of a character. I'm not drawn to playing a good person who's suffering or a bad person with no redeeming qualities," she says. "What tends to get me really excited is when a character can be passionate about their convictions, even if they still have a lot of change and growth ahead of them."

Mavis is just such a character, and

she tends to draw attention to actors who embody her. Both actresses who had played it previously were nominated for Tonys, and Alice Ghostley, who played Mavis in the original 1965 Broadway production, also won Best Featured Actress in a Play. Still, the play has long languished a bit in the shadow of Hansberry's most famous and oft-produced work, *A Raisin in the Sun*.

"One of the reasons *Sidney* was so much fun to do was that it really felt like we were doing a new play in some ways," Miriam says. "People didn't know it. It was upending expectations." Despite her early career work in Shakespeare, Ibsen, and other classics, Miriam's heart and hunger lie in new writing and new play development. "There's nothing like the gift of feeling an audience experiencing something for the first time," she says. "I love doing Shakespeare, but I don't necessarily need to watch another production of *Measure for Measure* to dive into conversations about gender and the patriarchy. There are a lot of playwrights working on new plays about that!"

Miriam credits the training she received at the Brown/Trinity Consortium with both her interest and skill in working on new plays. "I was there with Oskar (Eustis) and Paula (Vogel), and so much time was spent collaborating with the playwrights and workshopping their new material," she remembers. In the last ten years, that experience and skill has landed her in rooms with some of America's most exciting new playwrights, including Clare Barron, Will Arbery, Amy Herzog, Anna Ziegler, and fellow Brown alum Jen Silverman '06, just to name a few.

"I am definitely drawn to plays that experiment with form—plays that are using language with a momentum and tautness," she says. "I like it when there is a kind of illogic to work through. I want things to be hard, and I want it to be a challenge so I can grow through each project and sharpen new skills."

Miriam ties some of her interest in form and language back to her fascination with studying Mandarin in high school and college. "I loved the pictographic aspect of it; I loved how hard it was as a native English speaker to learn pronunciation. The history, etymology of the characters, culture... I was just in love," she remembers. "But I think there was always a broader fascination with language and the way it gets used, which is true for many actors."

According to Miriam, it is not only Shakespeare and Chekhov who use language in striking and complex ways. It's one of the reasons she loves using new plays with her students. "So many contemporary playwrights are using language to do something complicated and challenging," she says. "It might sound like just hyperrealism to an audience, but what does it mean for an actor when a character changes thought abruptly in the middle of a sentence, or just completely drops off mid-word? You have to fill the next moment, to create these maps in your brain of how the words connect."

ALWAYS "RIGHT AT THE START OF SOMETHING"

Since our late teens at Brown to our current, mid-forties in New York, Miriam and I have continued to spend time together, from rehearsal rooms to book clubs. As friends, we commiserate as much as we celebrate: our weddings, my mom's death, the birth of her children, the doldrums of lockdown.

I saw *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window* just weeks after Anita died, and Miriam's performance was captivating. I wasn't surprised. It is not so much that Miriam makes success seem effortless; it's that she's open about embracing setbacks as part of the process. She fails with aplomb. She suffers with depth. She's gorgeously imperfect, and it is part of the reason she can embody such a wide range of roles with such breathtaking humanity.



The play's success, and the Tony nomination, meant posing for publicity shots shortly after her mom's death. "I found myself finding little ways to include my mom in the process. I did the *New York Times* photo shoot at my parents' place, and it even featured their dog. I had pictures of her all over my dressing room. I never put away my grief or experienced it as a distraction. I felt it all, all the time."

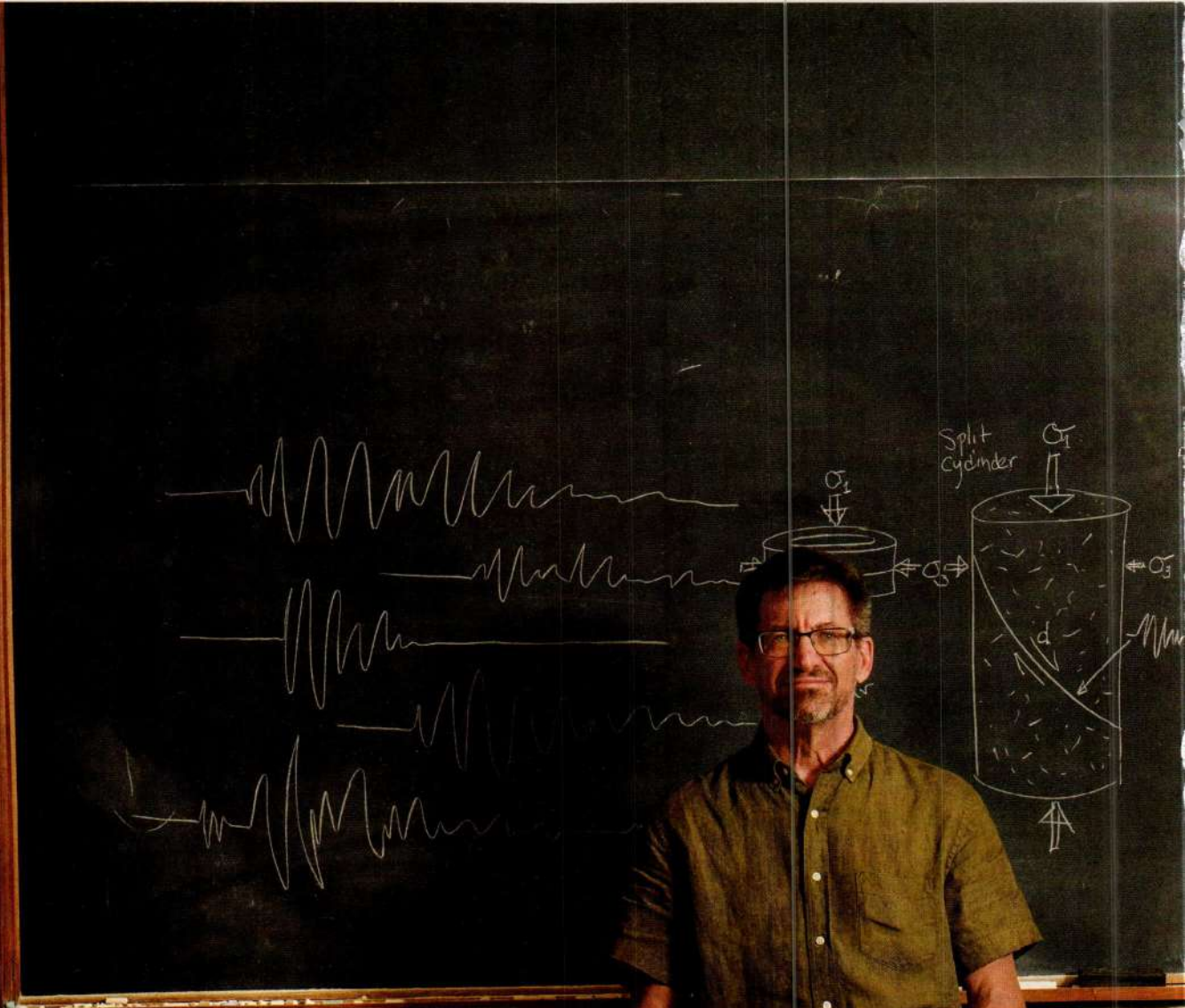
The application of her humanity is not limited to her work as an actor—she is an outspoken advocate for causes she cares about. A founding member of the Fair Wage on Stage movement, since winning the Tony she has been putting her newly elevated profile to good use, participating in the Covenant House Sleep Out to End Homelessness and Broadway Acts For Abortion Fundraiser. She was a frequent fixture on the picket lines for the SAG-AFTRA

strike (her husband is an actor and organizer for the organization). But she is careful not to label herself an "activist." Having grown up with two parents who were active in the Progressive Labor Party Movement and other causes, she witnessed the kind of time and commitment being an activist requires. "My whole life I watched two people who prioritize their values over money and notoriety," she says. "I think that impacted me and my life goals. I

knew I wanted to have interesting roles and work with good artists. And I was doing that, so I felt successful."

Still, winning a Tony has opened doors, and she plans to take every opportunity to continue to grow. "Winning a Tony at 45...I feel young," she says. "I always feel like I am right at the start of something."

Alix Sobler '01 is an award-winning playwright and theater artist based in NYC.



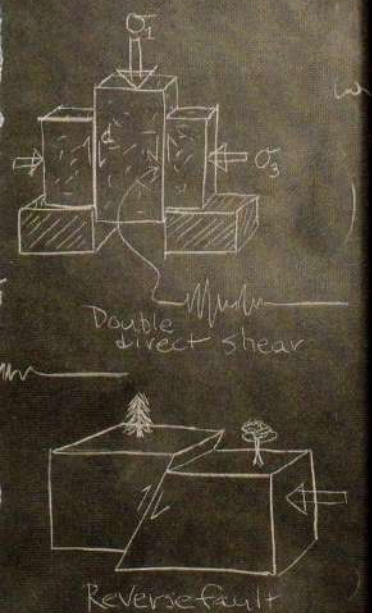
Michael Blanpied '85 ScM,
'89 PhD, at Southern Methodist
University, where he is a
research professor.

fault tolerance

After decades of research, a reliable earthquake prediction system remains elusive as ever. Michael Blanpied isn't worried.

BY DANIEL OBERHAUS

PHOTOGRAPHS BY NANCY NEWBERRY



Earthquake prediction—or, as Blanpied calls it, the “P-word”—was a touchy subject that pitted the old hands against the young turks at the USGS.

m

Michael Blanpied '85 ScM, '89 PhD, was just wrapping up for the day in his basement laboratory in Menlo Park, California, when he felt the tremors. As a first-year research scientist at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Blanpied spent his days studying how earthquakes begin, a research topic that had occupied him for the past decade as a geophysics student at Yale and Brown. Blanpied could mathematically describe how the tiniest fault slip could grow into a devastating earthquake, but until that Tuesday afternoon in early October 1989 he had never personally experienced the sensation of the ground trembling beneath his feet. Blanpied gripped a filing cabinet as the quakes swelled into a crescendo and a phenomenon he knew only in theory overwhelmed him with the raw power of its reality.

And just as suddenly as it had started, Blanpied's first brush with an earthquake was over. The entire ordeal had lasted just 15 seconds. Blanpied never even had the time to get scared. "It was alarming, but I didn't feel physically in danger," he recalls. Most of his colleagues at USGS had already left the lab early to watch the third game of the World Series between the Oakland Athletics and San Francisco Giants, and as the lights in the basement flickered off, Blanpied's immediate concerns were whether the shaking and power loss had destroyed the precious experimental data on his computer. It was only when he ventured above ground that he realized he had experienced a historic moment.

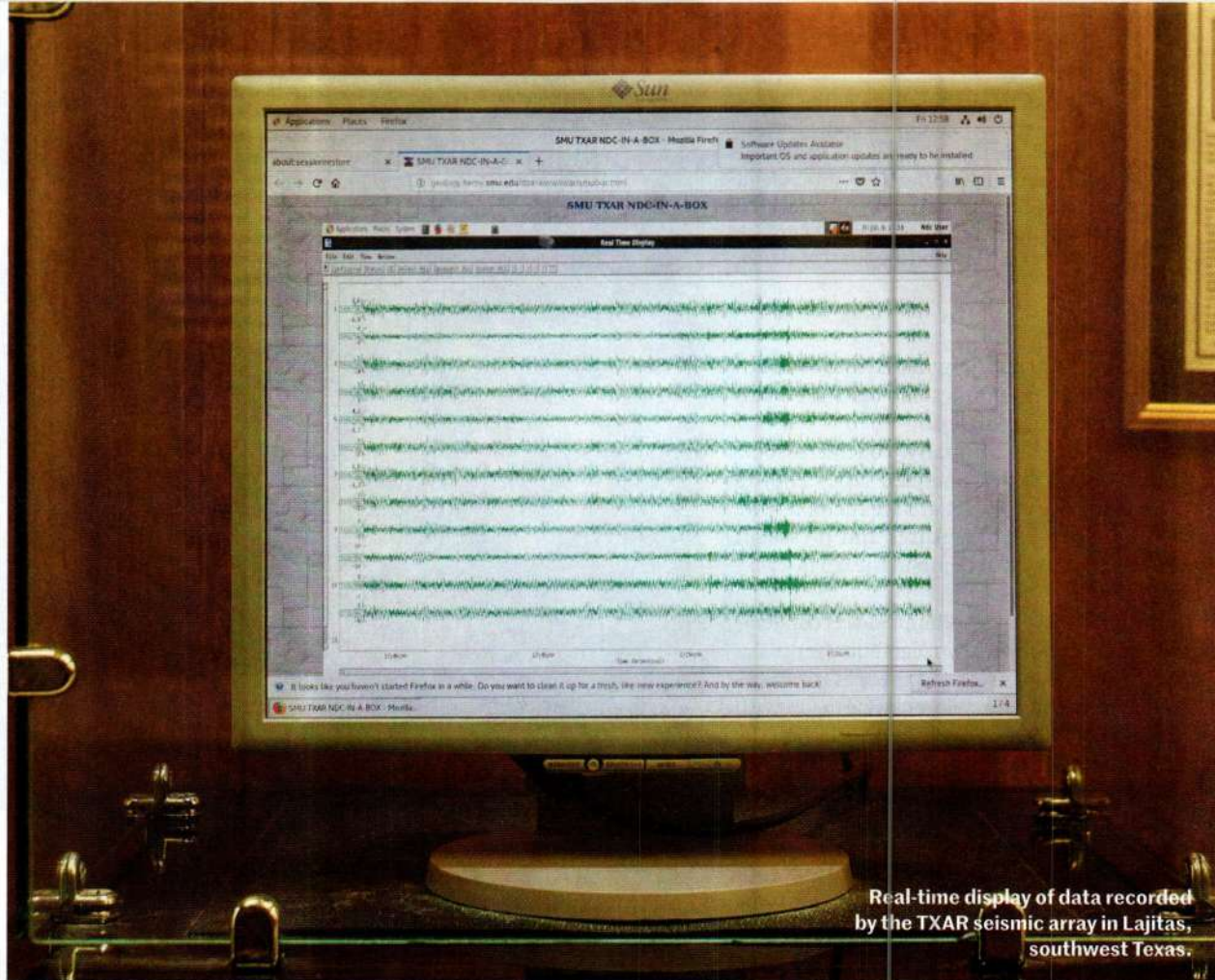
"This was my first real earthquake and I didn't know from

personal experience just how big or close it was," Blanpied says. "We didn't have instant information or cell phones at the time, but once I was above ground and started running into people I realized that this was big."

Blanpied had just lived through the Loma Prieta earthquake, one of the most powerful temblors ever recorded in California and among the most destructive to ever occur in the United States. The 6.9 magnitude earthquake began in the Santa Cruz mountains just south of San Francisco and sent shockwaves rippling through the Bay Area, where they destroyed bridges, buildings, and freeways. All told, the earthquake caused around \$10 billion in damage, nearly 4,000 injuries, and 63 deaths.

Loma Prieta was a disaster, but for the geosciences community it was also an opportunity. Investments in earthquake research and response capabilities tend to spike in the aftermath of a massive quake, creating a boom-bust cycle marked by disasters and renaissances in seismology. The infamous 1906 quake in San Francisco—which remains the most destructive in America's history—resulted in research that revolutionized our understanding of plate tectonics. The devastating Sylmar earthquake in 1971 near Los Angeles transformed building codes in the state and led to greater public safety measures for earthquakes. Loma Prieta, in this respect, was no different.

In the aftermath of the quake, the USGS received a significant boost in funding from Congress with a mandate to closely integrate a number of regional earthquake monitoring and research efforts to create a truly national earthquake hazard program. Loma Prieta also brought renewed public interest in earthquake prediction, which has always been an elusive north star for the field. Flush with Congressional funding and emboldened by a suite of sophisticated new technologies such as GPS satellites and real-time seismic networks, USGS scientists rekindled hope that one day soon predicting earthquakes would



be as routine as predicting the weather.

Earthquake prediction—or, as Blanpied calls it, the “P-word”—was a touchy subject that pitted the old hands against the young turks at the USGS. One side had had their optimism crushed by decades of lackluster progress and believed earthquake prediction was a fool’s errand. The other believed that new technologies had brought us to the cusp of predicting one of the most mysterious forces in nature. It’s a debate that continues to this day and Blanpied—first as a young scientist and now as the associate coordinator of the USGS Earthquake Hazards Program—has had a front row seat for it all.

STRANGE VIBRATIONS

The ground beneath our feet is in constant motion. Californians experience this often, and Northeasterners were reminded in April when a 4.8 quake hit New Jersey. As you read this, there are massive blocks of rock in Earth’s crust slipping and sliding past one another along fractures known as faults. These rocks in the crust move at a glacial pace measured in centimeters per year, carried like ships upon the molten rock of Earth’s mantle. This subterranean ballet is totally inaccessible to direct observation, a fundamental challenge that links seismology with astronomy and other scientific disciplines that are wholly reliant on remote sensing. It is only when the rocks slip against each other in just the right way to produce an earthquake that geoscientists can infer what is happening deep below the surface. But not every slip along a fault results

in an earthquake and not every earthquake has the power to level entire towns. The vexing question for geophysicists—and the key to earthquake prediction—is why. Blanpied has spent his career searching for an answer.

After getting an undergraduate degree in geophysics and geology from Yale, Blanpied came to Brown University in 1983 to study under Terry Tullis, now a professor emeritus of geological sciences, and a pioneer of experimental rock mechanics. When most people think of geologists, they envision someone out in nature collecting samples and studying the inscrutable language of rocks carved in the landscape. That’s what Blanpied had in mind, too, when he first arrived at Brown and signed on to Tullis’s USGS research project studying small faults in the hills of Pennsylvania.

Although Blanpied quickly discovered that he didn’t have much of a knack for field work, he proved to be an adept experimentalist and quickly made a home for himself in Tullis’s laboratory. For the next six years, Blanpied spent countless days grinding small slabs of granite against each other in a special experimental device custom-built by Tullis. His primary objective was to understand how faults grow and evolve over time. He was, in effect, replicating the same processes that kick-

Personal rock stars: Blanpied collected this serpentinite (right) near San Francisco. The striations are faults that slid at depth within the San Andreas fault zone. The phyllite (far right)—a foliated metamorphic rock formed from slate—he found on the coast of Maine.



start a real earthquake along fault lines that can stretch for hundreds of miles in a machine small enough to fit within a small lab.

"All earthquakes start small with a microscopic transition along a fault," Blanpied says. "They're tricky to study because we can't see them, but we can reproduce the temperatures and pressures those rocks experience at depth in the lab in a very controlled way."

In the mid-1980s, when Blanpied was conducting his experiments at Brown, earthquake prediction was still a distant dream. Many of his peers believed that it was, in principle, possible to say with some precision when and where an earthquake would strike. But the scientific knowledge—to say nothing of the technology—just wasn't there yet. As an example, Blanpied described how in the mid-20th century the best models for earthquakes essentially reduced the instigating rocks to uniform flat rectangles so they could mathematically describe the stresses that built up as those rocks slid against each other. As more data was collected, it became distressingly clear that these simplified models hardly captured the immense complexity of earthquake dynamics.

"We realize now that the details of the earthquake source and what's going on in the faults is complex over a variety of scales," Blanpied says. "We can't possibly observe it at all scales for every fault on a planetary scale, so we're left with this conundrum of trying to understand the behavior of earthquakes when we can't actually do the fine-scale measurements we'd need to really predict them."

Still, it seemed plausible that the data that Blanpied and other experimental geophysicists were generating in a lab could be the seeds that would one day grow into an earthquake prediction model. But lab data on earthquake initiation was only one half of the solution. If earthquake prediction was ever going to become a reality it was clear that it would require a lot more real world data—and the Loma Prieta earthquake provided the perfect pretext to go collect it.

WHO KILLED EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION?

Parkfield, California, is a small ranching town midway between San Francisco and Los Angeles where cattle outnumber residents by a significant margin. This isn't particularly unusual in that part of Monterey County, but what makes Parkfield unique is that it is one of the most earth-

quake-prone locations in the United States. Directly on top of the San Andreas fault, Parkfield gets a magnitude six or greater earthquake roughly every 22 years, earning it the nickname of the "Earthquake Capital of the World."

In the early 1980s, after studying Parkfield's oddly regular seismic activity for years, scientists at the USGS made an official prediction that Parkfield would experience at least a magnitude six earthquake in 1988, give or take five years. The USGS scientists set up a lot of seismic monitoring equipment around Parkfield and they waited. By the time 1993 rolled around, Parkfield had yet to experience the predicted quake. In fact, the town wouldn't be rocked by another large earthquake until 2004, more than a decade after the USGS predicted it would happen. "That was really the final nail in the coffin in using patterns of earthquake timing and other easy to measure observables for predicting earthquakes," Blanpied says. "After that, you wouldn't say the word 'prediction' because you'd be labeled a crackpot."

By the time Parkfield was finally hit with its next big quake, Blanpied had transitioned from working as a USGS scientist to his current position as the associate program coordinator for the USGS Earthquake Hazards Program. Originally established as part of a pan-agency federal initiative called the National Earthquake Hazard Reductions Program in the late 1970s, the USGS Earthquake Hazards Program sits at the intersection of research and science-driven policy—what Blanpied calls "applied Earth science." In partnership with collaborators at the National Science Foundation, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and other federal organizations, USGS scientists provide guidance on earthquake occurrences and their effects using data sourced from a global monitoring system.

As the incoming associate coordinator for the USGS

“We’re left with this conundrum of trying to understand the behavior of earthquakes when we can’t actually do the fine-scale measurements we’d need to really predict them.”



earthquake hazards program, Blanpied found himself in the middle of a fierce debate over the future of temblor prediction. The ability to predict an earthquake would obviously be a major advantage in advancing the program’s mission of reducing risks to life and property from quakes. The problem, however, was that no one seemed to agree on whether this was a goal that was practically achievable. The failed Parkfield experiment notwithstanding, there was still a strong contingent of earthquake researchers who believed that prediction was possible by creating sophisticated computer models using a combination of experimental and real-world data. With satellites, seismometer networks on the ocean floor, and computers capable of analyzing these vast troves of data using increasingly sophisticated machine learning techniques, perhaps earthquake prediction wasn’t such a crazy idea after all?

Blanpied isn’t so sure. After two decades helping run the earthquake hazard program, there still hasn’t been any meaningful progress toward a true earthquake prediction system—and it’s unclear if there ever will be. “Some of the smartest earth scientists on the planet have been working on this for decades and they’ve tried innumerable different approaches, but nothing’s worked,” Blanpied says.

“Maybe the Earth is putting out an observable signal that would let us make predictions if we knew what to look for, but so far we haven’t seen it.”

But that doesn’t mean all hope is lost. For Blanpied, it’s about shifting emphasis away from prediction to forecasting. It’s a subtle rhetorical difference that has a major impact in terms of how we think about mitigating earthquake risks. Whereas prediction is about trying to name the time, place, and magnitude of a particular temblor in advance, forecasting is about looking at broader patterns of earthquake activities. Rather than trying to predict whether a quake is going to hit Parkfield next year, Blanpied and his colleagues want to use the wealth of new data and computational resources to create a system that will furnish estimates of the likelihood of a quake occurring in a particular area over a time period of decades to years, and eventually over smaller, more precise time periods.

While the lack of specificity might be disappointing to anyone hoping for an earthquake prediction system, Blanpied highlights just how useful a reliable earthquake forecasting system can be in terms of saving lives. With forecasting, the goal is more about improving preparedness for future earthquakes by providing people with the likelihood that a large quake will happen in their region over some time frame. This information can be used by citizens and policymakers to prepare for that eventuality, whether it’s by structurally improving existing infrastructure, strengthening building codes, or bolstering emergency response capabilities.

Today, Blanpied and his colleagues at the USGS earthquake hazards program are working on developing a system that will provide continuous aftershock forecasting that will help emergency officials better adapt to the aftershocks that follow a major earthquake. While aftershocks are a normal part of any earthquake, they create significant operational problems for emergency response personnel, who don’t know where those aftershocks will strike or how strong they will be. This complicates basic response matters such as picking an airport to coordinate rescues, planning evacuation routes, or deciding where to stage an ad hoc medical facility for victims.

“Over the next few years, I think we’ll be able to make those real-time forecasts and put out products that answer those particular questions,” Blanpied says. “If people start getting this kind of forecasting information on a regular basis, most of the time it will be kind of boring, like a weather report is now until there’s a storm bearing down. We don’t think much about it, but it helps us calibrate things like whether to carry an umbrella. So my hope is we can get this information about the likelihood of earthquakes and their impacts out to people in ways that speak to them and are useful.”

Daniel Oberhaus is a science writer in Brooklyn and author of The Silicon Shrink, a forthcoming book about AI and psychiatry.

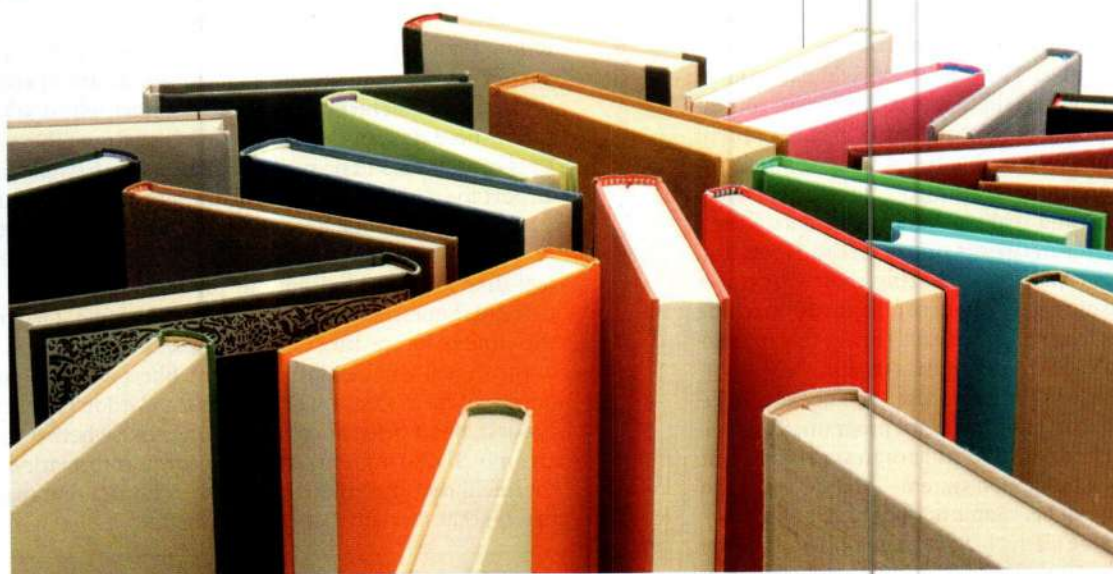
Calling All Brown Authors

Published a
book recently?

Would you like to share it with the entire Brown community of alumni, seniors, parents of undergraduates, medical students, faculty, and staff? Promote your title in *Brown Alumni Magazine's* specially formatted advertising section—Fact, Fiction & Verse—and reach more than 116,000 readers.

Fact, Fiction & Verse is for Brown authors exclusively and includes your book's cover and a brief description as well as your name, class year, and author or publisher contact information. As a bonus, we will post your ad in the brownalumnimagazine.com Classifieds and link to your website.

For more information or to reserve space in our next Fact, Fiction & Verse, please contact Jean Lewis at (401) 863-9612 or BA.Mads@brown.edu.



BEYOND

THE
GATES

MARKETING

Toy Stories

Putting Barbie on TikTok

"I tell stories and play with toys," says Bill Watterson '95. Since joining Mattel's social media team in February 2023, he has directed more than 80 TikToks for the company. A Watterson-directed TikTok of Barbie dolls attending the *Barbie* movie premiere got its own write-up in *Ad Age* magazine, helping *Barbie* amass two million followers on the popular (and controversial) short-form video app.

The L.A.-based Watterson has been a musician, a production assistant, and a working actor. But it was his 2017 directorial debut, *Dave Made a Maze*, that served as the most direct stepping stone to his gig with Mattel. The cardboard fantasy world he created for the feature film incorporated puppetry, stop motion, and other practical effects, establishing him as a perfect candidate to breathe life into inanimate IP (intellectual property).

"Mattel, Hasbro, these are places where my skill set has value. You have a toy, but no story."

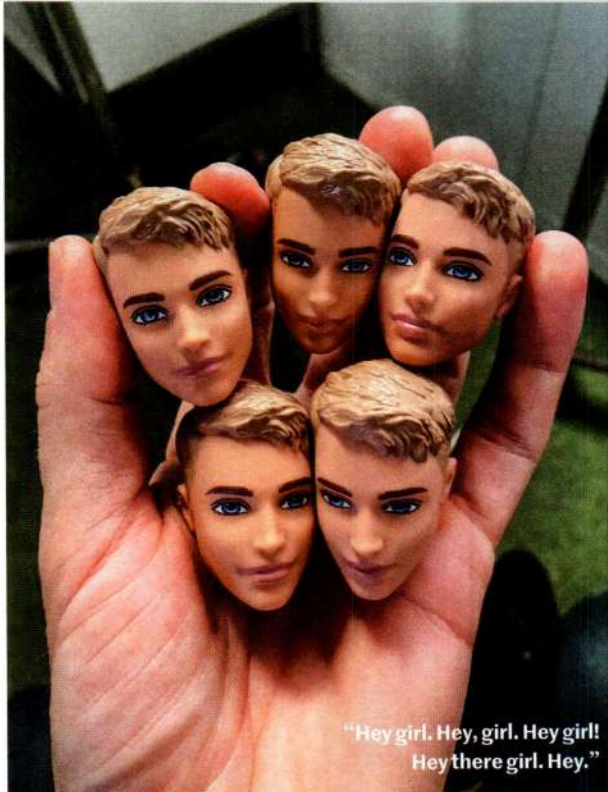
Photograph by David Dowling

BEYOND THE GATES

The stories he's telling for Mattel are extreme short-form. Most TikToks are between 20 and 30 seconds long, although the brief runtime belies the effort and artistry that goes into each one. "I'm working with people who've worked on *Robot Chicken*, worked with del Toro on *Pinocchio*," says Watterson. "There are no slouches in that studio."

The process starts long before Watterson and his team show up on set. A team of writers pitches ideas to the marketing team. Sometimes, the ideas are tied to specific new toys or collaborations—for instance, a doll commemorating Stevie Nicks, or Anna May Wong, the first Chinese American Hollywood film star.

Once Watterson is handed the final scripts, he can begin storyboarding—which, in this case, means bringing the dolls home to painstakingly arrange and photograph them to demonstrate how he might execute a certain shot or scene. These are presented at the next meeting and further fine-tuned. And then it's time



to really get into the weeds. Will the short be stop-motion? Puppetry? A combination of both? Each approach has its pros and cons.

Another challenge specific to the Mattel TikTok studio is the dolls themselves—since they're pulled straight from the box, they have limitations that wouldn't apply to characters designed specifically for animation. "We have to find ways to

adjust ideas and execution because it's like, 'Oh, that doll doesn't bend at the elbows, so she can't look at her watch.' So we have to come up with another gag. Or we have to shoot at an angle where what her arm can do looks like a wave goodbye."

A typical shoot is four days, during which the team will film an average of eight TikToks. One of Watterson's all-time favorites follows

Barbie and Ken at a baseball game. Ken orders a pretzel, only for it to be tossed in his direction and hit him smack in the face. To animate the airborne pretzel, they attached it to the camera with the gaffer's roller skate and gave it a spin. "So it's twirling towards Ken as we dolly the camera towards him," Watterson explains—a shot inspired by director Sam Raimi's camerawork in *Evil Dead*.

Then Barbie jumps into action. She shouts for a hot dog, whips out a catcher's mitt, and neatly snags a bun, sausage, and a picture-perfect squiggle of mustard and ketchup in quick succession. The whole sequence was shot in reverse, with each component of the miniature hot dog attached to a monofilament that was whipped out of the frame. To get the final effect, they played the tape backwards and erased the filament in post-production. "Those kinds of gags are so fun to execute," Watterson says. "It's literally a bunch of adults playing with toys. And we love it." —ABIGAIL CAIN '15

Ageless Barbie, "born" on March 9, 1959, just turned 65.

PNC is the only statewide private nonprofit historic preservation organization in North Carolina.

HERITAGE

PRESERVING NORTH CAROLINA'S HISTORY J. Myrick Howard, who attended Brown from 1970-72 before transferring to UNC-Chapel Hill due to family health issues, went on to become a hero for historic preservation in his home state. During Howard's tenure as president of **Preservation North Carolina**, he saved 900 properties in 80 counties, leveraging more than \$750 million in private investment and helping push through legislation that offered tax credits for rehabilitating old mill buildings as well as helping to preserve entire neighborhoods. His innovative strategies are explained in his 2007 book, *Buying Time for Heritage: How to Save an Endangered Historic Property*. Howard retired last summer; in November, he received the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award for Lifetime Achievement from the National Trust for Historic



Preservation in Washington, D.C.; in December, he was named the *News & Observer's* annual Tar Heel of the Year. Howard earned graduate degrees in law and city planning and was set on becoming a lawyer. A class in historic preservation put him on a different path. —LESLIE WEEDEN

BILL WATTERSON: ETHAN HYMAN/THE NEWS & OBSERVER (HOWARD)

Shared History

Reparations viewed from both sides of American slavery

The U.S. government famously promised “Forty acres and a mule” to people recently freed from slavery in 1864. This early experiment in reparations lasted all of one year, as chronicled in a stirring documentary from Yoruba Richen ’94, *The Cost of Inheritance*. The film, which debuted at DOC NYC last year and can now be seen on PBS’s YouTube channel, spends time with Black activists advocating for compensation as well as white descendants of slave owners striving to make amends for past injustices.

for a companion piece to the Oscar-winning *American Factory* and won a 2020 NAACP Image Award for directing *The Killing of Breonna Taylor*. One through line: “I’m very interested in history from the margins—that’s actually a phrase I learned at Brown from Professor Carolyn Dean—because from a very young age, I felt that our voices and our stories were not being told or they were being told incorrectly.”

Richen, who’s now working on a PBS *American Experience* project about the Wilmington Insurrection of 1898, cultivated her storytelling skills acting in *For Colored Girls* and other Brown student productions. “Having an acting background has been helpful because in theater you learn to connect with your character and figure out the story you’re trying to tell. It’s a similar thing in docu-



“Often [in documentary films] we only hear the side of the oppressed or the victimized,” Richen says. “But in order to remedy, or attempt to remedy, inequities, we also have to understand the stories of power because we’re dealing with a shared history.”

Richen was tapped for *The Cost of Inheritance* on the strength of her formidable body of Emmy- and Peabody-nominated work. Richen, who also teaches at CUNY’s Craig Newmark Graduate School of Journalism, has explored everything from Black food (*High on the Hog*) and Harry Belafonte to the *Green Book* travel guide, *Rosa Parks*, and missing people of color. She interviewed Barack and Michelle Obama

Richen, second from right, on set on Georgia land given to an ancestor of Randy Quaterman, far left, but never used because of legal complications.

mentary filmmaking. I tell my students, you can have a great idea, but no one wants to be lectured to. We want a story!”

After graduation, Richen earned a master’s in urban planning from UC Berkeley. There, she teamed with former Brown classmate Christina Hanhardt ’94 and found her calling. “We made a video about welfare reform changes and that’s when the bug hit me,” Richen recalls. “Oh, I can combine all the things I’m interested in: research, policy, figuring out how to tell a story creatively, interviewing people.” We did another film the next year and I was hooked.” —HUGH HART



SCIENCE

Unseen Depths

Research using sonar helps reveal life in a hidden marine world

Thousands of feet below sea level, a robot emits a pulse of sound. The sound wave bounces off craggy rocks on the seafloor, schools of migrating fish, a diving toothed whale, before traveling back to the surface as data points on a computer. Each waveform, every shift in frequency and intensity, paints an otherwise invisible landscape of life in our deep seas.

Senior scientist and science chair at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute Kelly Benoit-Bird '98 uses sonar to visualize the hidden animal behaviors of the pelagic world. After being inspired by a fourth-grade trip to an aquarium where she learned how marine mammals

"see" through sound, she later devoted herself to the study of biosonar, with her research garnering numerous accolades, among them a prestigious MacArthur Fellowship.

Every day her job as an acoustics ocean ecologist involves sensing our ocean's depths the way a dolphin might. She describes a world in constant motion where landmarks are nonexistent and plants, instead of large and rooted to the soil, are microscopic and free-floating. "For me it's always incredible to try to imagine what it would be like to live in the water column," Benoit-Bird says. "How do animals cope with that world? And how do we break out of our own way of

thinking and being tied to a two-dimensional surface?"

While first driven by scientific curiosity, Benoit-Bird researches the oceans in large part to challenge the misconception of the sea as a lifeless, unchanging alien world. "It wasn't really that long ago that that was the way we saw the ocean," she says. "That it was boundless, that you could just chuck stuff into it and it would disappear forever, and there was nothing alive down there to worry about." She considers her research contributions to the American Museum of Natural History's *Unseen Oceans* exhibit, which has traveled to other museums, to be one of her most impactful projects. "It's just such a different

audience and a different scale than most scientists ever have," she says.

Working with expert science writers and visual storytellers to translate her research into other exhibits at the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute and with federal agencies on sustainable ocean management has helped Benoit-Bird reflect on the hows and whys of her research: "One of the best parts of science is collaborating with people who bring a different perspective. A different tool set. A different but related question. I love that. You get pushed in new directions. And having your collaborators challenge you to be better than you would have been by yourself."

—CHRISTINE BAEK '25



BOOKS

Fresh Ink

REVIEWED BY EDWARD HARDY

Help Wanted by Adelle Waldman '98 (Norton)

Following her debut, *The Love Affairs of Nathaniel P.*, Waldman takes readers two hours north of NYC to fading and fictional Potterstown, where at Town Square Store #1512 the nine-member Movement team begins unloading 1,800 boxes off a tractor trailer at 4 a.m. You'll meet Big Will, the store manager; Meredith, a deeply unlikable boss; Little Will, Movement's group manager; and Val, a clever mom hoping for a position that at least has benefits. The plot snaps into gear when Big Will gets a transfer, which could lead to a promotion for someone else on the Movement team. This low-wage, high-stakes drama arrives with a flock of fully-formed characters.

2020: One City, Seven People and the Year Everything Changed by Eric Klinenberg '93 (Knopf)

Klinenberg, an NYU sociologist and author of *Palaces for the People*, looks back on the pandemic in this deeply researched, narrative-driven book. Everyone in NYC experienced the pandemic in unequal, complicated ways and Klinenberg zooms in on the stories of seven people from across the city, including an elementary school principal

in Manhattan's Chinatown, a retired district attorney in Queens who started a mutual aid network, and an artist who was active in Black Lives Matter. Between the profiles Klinenberg looks at the pandemic with a broader, world-infused lens in an attempt to untangle a number of lingering questions, including why the United States faced an explosion of societal problems that were not replicated around the globe.

The Lula Cafe Cookbook by Jason Hammel '95 (Phaidon)

Written by executive chef and co-owner of Chicago's Lula Cafe, a Logan Square institution known for its farm-to-table sensibility, this is both an intriguing collection of 90 easily repeatable recipes and a restaurant memoir. Hammel first opened a small storefront with Amalea Tshilds in 1999 and the recipes—think the cafe's classics like Pasta Yiayia, Greek-inspired bucatini with garlic, cheese, and cinnamon, as well as braised pork belly with watermelon—are all accompanied by their origin stories. There's also a useful selection of “building block” recipes for sauces, pickles, and oils that can transform any number of dishes.

EDUCATION

Coding Evangelist

The Coding School gets students hooked on STEM

Before the pandemic, Kiera Peltz '16 and her team at the Coding School were introducing quantum computing to participants at a hackathon at the University of Maryland. The event was a sea of white male freshmen. Peltz met two female students who were unsure if it was the right path for them.

“I explained to them why quantum computing is interesting and they were convinced to try it out,” Peltz remembers. She ran into the two young women a year later at a quantum computing conference in D.C. “They told me, ‘I love quantum computing and this is what I want to spend my life doing!’” says Peltz.

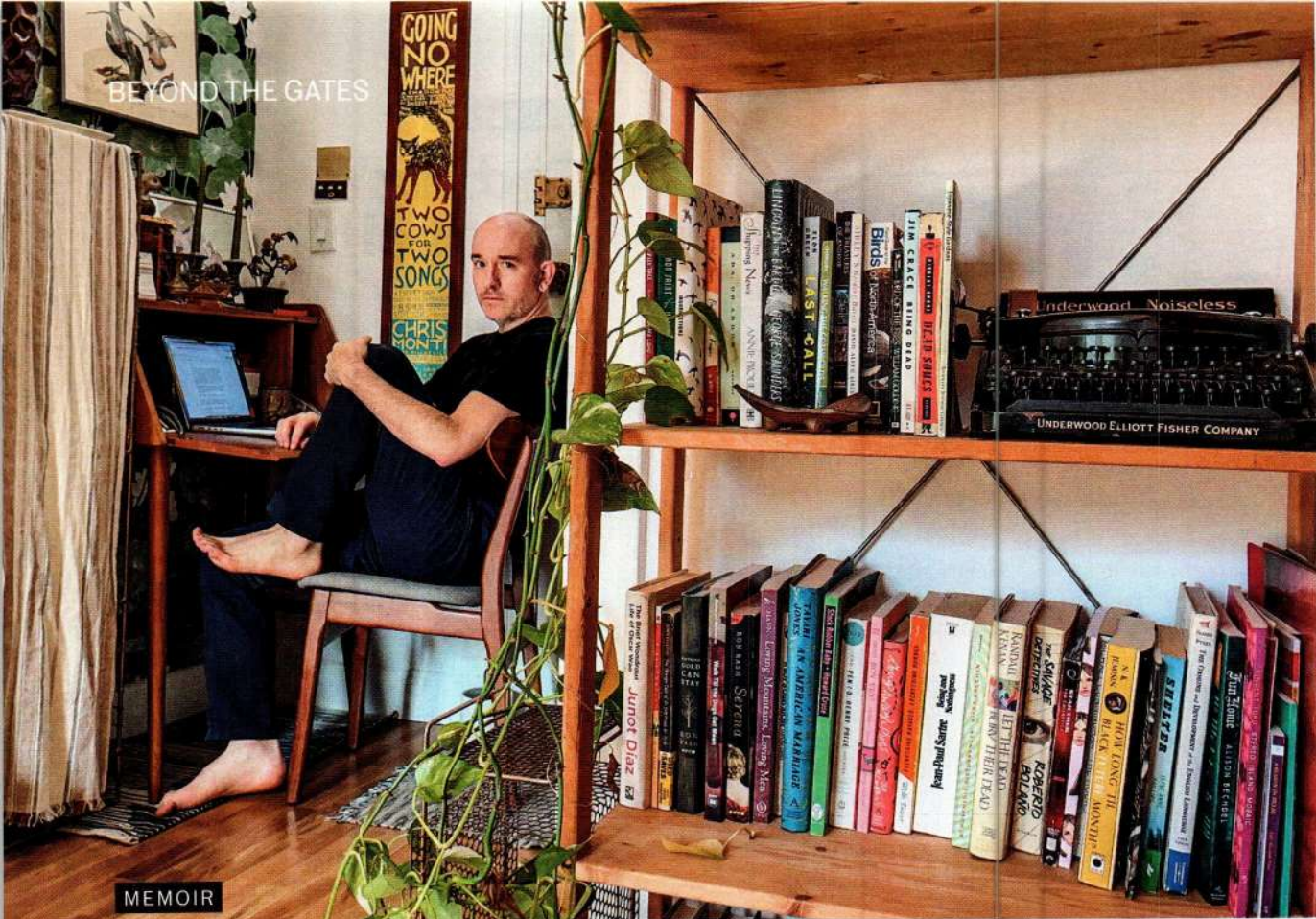
Peltz, a political science concentrator now based in L.A., launched the Coding School nine years ago from her dorm room at Brown. “I didn’t have a background in STEM or management,” she says. “Everyone told me I shouldn’t do this. But I didn’t listen because I knew this was something that needed to happen and no one was doing this kind of work.”

The program offers free online courses to high school students, primarily on artificial intelligence and quantum computing, which are quickly becoming attractive to employers. Completing the course earns students a certificate that is signed by both the nonprofit and Google Quantum AI, one of its corporate partners. Anyone of any age can also take courses to learn more about two tech sectors. More than 50,000 students in 125 countries have taken Coding School courses, Peltz says.

“Our education system isn’t equipping my generation with the skills that are needed to be competitive in the workforce,” contends Peltz, “and we aren’t developing STEM education for people like me, who didn’t have family interested in STEM or weren’t too interested in voraciously seeking out every technical class. I get messages all the time from students saying how one of our courses has single-handedly changed the trajectory of their lives. It’s meaningful and important work for me.”—DAVID SILVERBERG



In 2023, Peltz was named to the *Forbes* 30 Under 30 list in its social impact category.



MEMOIR

Discarded Son

On coming out and being thrown out of the family

By his sophomore year at Brown, Jonathan Corcoran '07 was still in culture shock from leaving his poor evangelical West Virginia upbringing for the privilege and liberalism of an Ivy League campus. (He was the only West Virginian in his class.) But then, while staying with the parents of his boyfriend, Sam Klugman '06 (Corcoran and Klugman are now married), he finally came out over the phone to his mother, Patricia, a fiercely religious woman who'd led a life of abandonment, abuse, and hardship. "You are no longer my son," announced Patricia, hanging up and leaving Corcoran in tears.

No Son Of Mine, published in April by University Press of Kentucky, is Corcoran's heart-wrenching memoir of what came both before and after that moment until Patricia died at age 74 in the early months of the pandemic, of non-Covid causes. Among other things, it's an account of trying to keep it together at Brown amid rejection from not only his mother but also his father, who told him that if he and Klugman ever tried to marry, they would face his shotgun.

"Brown was about learning to live without my blood family while relying on friends to be a new

kind of community," recalls Corcoran, who lives in Brooklyn and teaches writing at NYU. The abrupt cutoff from his kin, he says, was painful yet liberating. "I'd been stripped of my family and found myself in a place where I could reinvent myself. Brown was where I learned to live without shame."

Corcoran says writing the memoir was cathartic. "It was as close to putting a period on the story as I could get and has allowed me to move on. Writing and telling stories requires us to make sense of events." One thing he had to reckon with was his mother's deep disappointment over her own life: "The older I got, I began to see how hurt she was, which didn't make me feel any better but did make me understand her a little bit more."

Corcoran now lives a free, busy life in New York City with his husband and a wide network of friends; his parents have both died. "I'd like to say I'm the best version of myself that I've ever been," he says. Years of family trauma took a toll on his physical and mental health, which have since improved dramatically, he says. "I hope this book finds the people who need it, those who've experienced family estrangement." He points to the surge in anti-LGBTQ laws that have passed recently, many in the part of the country he's from. "I keep trying to tell myself that what happened to me couldn't happen today, but I know that's not true." —TIM MURPHY '91



Corcoran, above, at home in NYC; inset, a young Corcoran and his mother, Patricia.

Saving Children

One alum's groundbreaking research has driven global policy change

Edward Frongillo '75 always enjoyed the challenges of gathering scientific data. Early in his career as an ecologist studying a wasp parasite, Frongillo even had to invent his own trap to capture the evasive specimen.

But the former summer camp counselor realized that he cared most about supporting the health needs of children. He now serves as the director of Global Health Initiatives at the University of South Carolina's Arnold School of Public Health and focuses on qualitative and quantitative analyses of the consequences of food insecurity.

Frongillo's breakthrough came in the early 1990s, when he and several colleagues quantified for the first time that around half of all child deaths were caused by what he describes as the "synergy between malnutrition and infection."

"If the children weren't malnourished, even if they got infected, they wouldn't have died," Frongillo says. "That really helped to get nutrition much higher on the global agenda."

Another multi-year research project from Frongillo studied the health differences between breast- and formula-fed infants, providing a foundation for the World Health Organization's global guidelines supporting breast feeding for the first six months of a baby's life to increase IQ and survival rates.

Frongillo's field research has also studied coping mechanisms of poor households from

upstate New York to Venezuela, revealing that even small increases in food insecurity can worsen children's academic performance and diminish their mental and physical health.

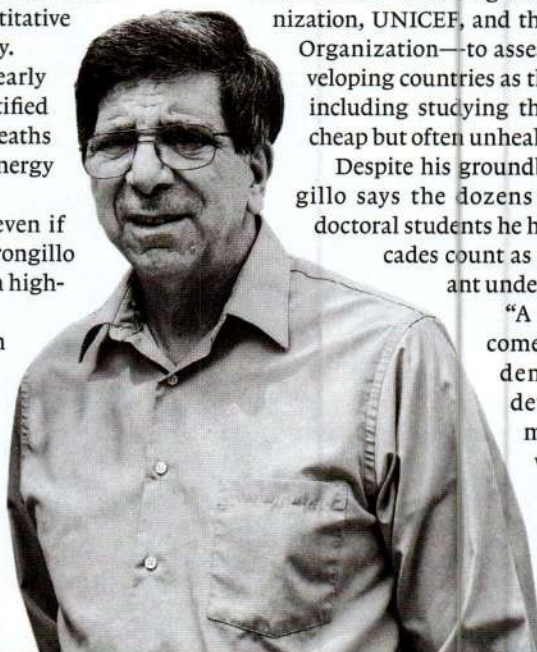
To turn the implications of his research into policies, Frongillo has often had to play diplomat as much as data analyst. While in Vietnam on a World Bank mission to improve investment in nutrition, Frongillo recruited the country's national soccer team coach as an advocate after seeing him complain in the news that his talented players lost the Asian Cup quarter-final because they were shorter than the competition.

"It's always about partnering with other people, and finding people who can contribute and making it possible for them to do that," Frongillo says. He is currently working with

three United Nations agencies—World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the Food and Agricultural Organization—to assess diets in a range of developing countries as their food supplies evolve, including studying their growing reliance on cheap but often unhealthy processed meals.

Despite his groundbreaking research, Frongillo says the dozens of undergraduate and doctoral students he has mentored over the decades count as among his most important undertakings.

"A lot [of my impact] has come through training students and helping them develop their talents and make use of their innovative ideas so they can make a contribution," he says. "And that's tremendously rewarding." —JACK BROOK '19

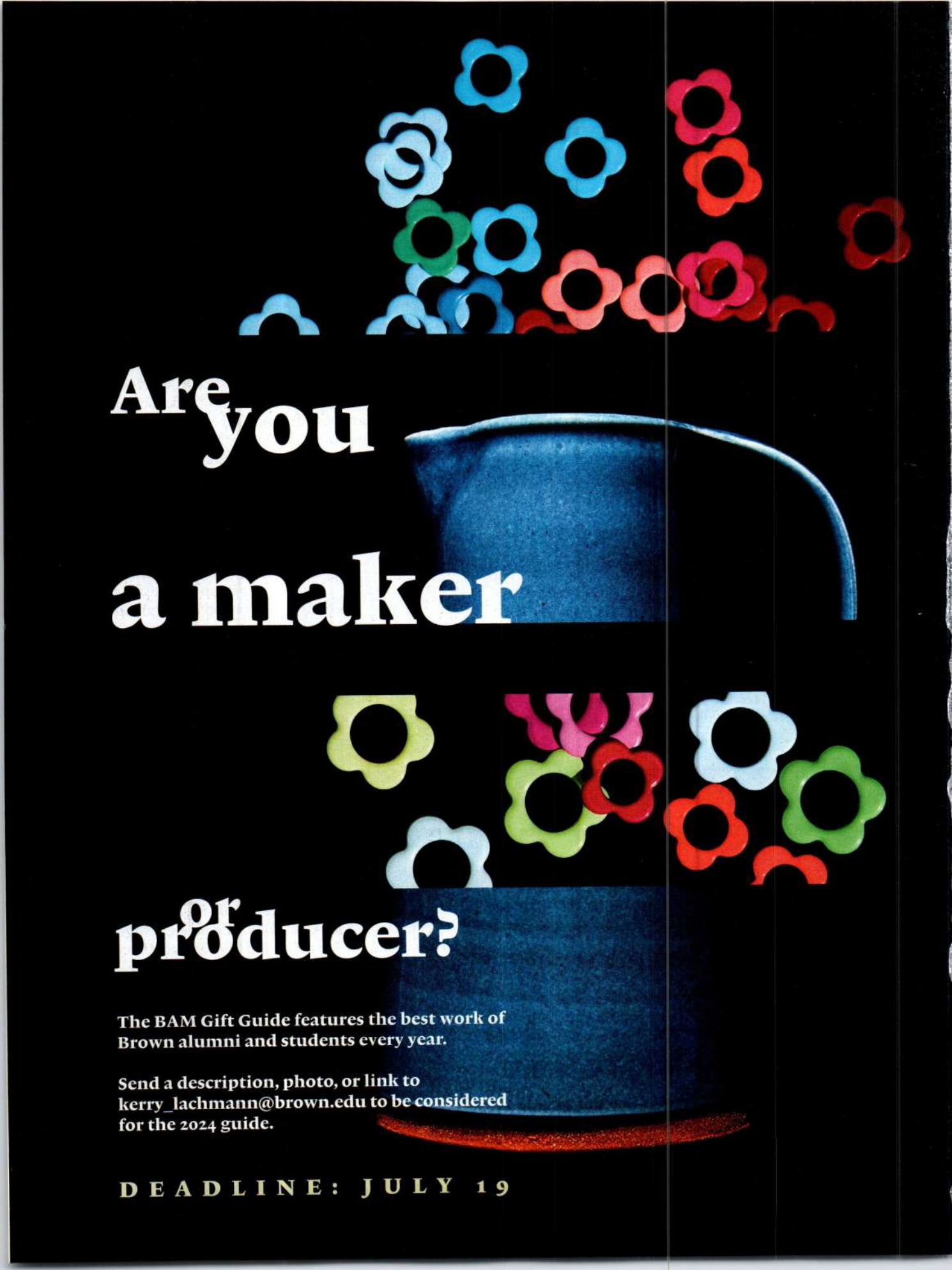


In the last few years, Frongillo has received two awards from the American Society for Nutrition Foundation.

INTERIOR DESIGN

HARLEM TOILE GOES MAINSTREAM Last fall, a new collection from renowned designer Sheila Bridges '86 debuted at Williams Sonoma, featuring her signature Harlem Toile de Jouy on pillow covers, cocktail shakers, glasses, napkins, and more. Bridges designed the Harlem offices of President Bill Clinton; most recently, she redecorated the official D.C. residence of Vice President Kamala Harris. Originally from Philadelphia, she moved to Harlem in 1993, starting Sheila Bridges Design a year later. Her toile, which she designed in 2006 for her own home, "lampoons some of the stereotypes deeply woven into the African American experience." It's part of the permanent wallpaper collection at Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum and her work is featured in numerous other museums, including the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Collaborations with other companies include Le Creuset and Wedgwood. She has also written two books, been named the top U.S. interior designer by CNN and *Time* magazine, and appeared as a regular contributor on NBC's *Today*. Find images of her work at sheilabridges.com. —LESLIE WEEDEN



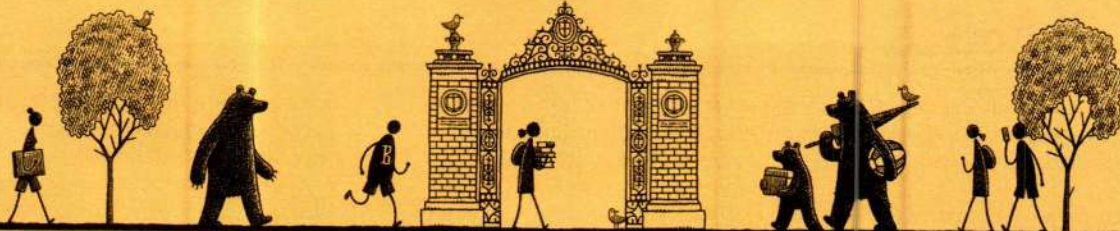


Are you a maker or producer?

The BAM Gift Guide features the best work of Brown alumni and students every year.

Send a description, photo, or link to kerry_lachmann@brown.edu to be considered for the 2024 guide.

DEADLINE: JULY 19



JUNE-AUGUST 2024 THE CLASSES...49 CLASSIFIEDS...58 OBITUARIES...66

THE CLASSES



OH FRABJOUS FLIGHT! This 1963 British Overseas Airways Corporation plane wasn't just packed with on-trend madras sports jackets—it's a safe bet the onboard entertainment was similarly bright and of-the-moment. For these lucky gentlemen made up the 1963 iteration of the Jabberwocks, Brown's oldest *a capella* singing group, on their way to perform in Bermuda for spring break and surely practicing a little along the way. The group formed in 1949 and by the early '60s had moved on from innocent barbershop renditions of "Halls of Ivy" to Beatles and Motown covers, even changing the lyrics of the folkie "Civil War" to turn it into an anti-Vietnam War protest song. Reports are that after this trip, the Jabberwocks mixed some calypso into their repertoire. Whatever the era and stylings, happy 75th to all the slithy toves out there! —PIPPA JACK

THE CLASSES

Send us your news! **Mail:** The Classes, Brown Alumni Magazine, Box 1854, Providence, R.I. 02912 **Email:** alumni_magazine@brown.edu **Web:** brownalumnimagazine.com **Deadline** for Nov.-Dec. '24 issue is July 19; Deadline for Jan.-Mar. '25 issue is Sept. 27

Interested in our email newsletter but haven't received it yet? Update your address by emailing us at alumni_magazine@brown.edu or at brown.edu/go/profile-contact.

46 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu. **Harold Demopulos** celebrated his 100th birthday with family and friends at the Rhode Island Veterans Home. Brown alumni in attendance included **George Petropoulos '50**, **Amelia Demopulos '90** and **Abigail Demopulos '94**. Harold maintained season tickets near the 50 yard line to Brown football games for decades until age impeded his attendance.

75TH REUNION

49 Send your news to Class Secretary **Harold Gadon** at hgadon7333@aol.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

51 Send your news to class presidents **Constance DelGizzi** at chdelgizzi@comcast.net; **Gene Weinberg** at awew1@cox.net; or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

52 Send your news to Class Secretary **Joe Munro** at munrojb@aol.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

70TH REUNION

54 Send your news to class secretaries **Margery Sharp** at 75 Harrington Ave., Shelburne, Vt. 05482, margexsharp@gmail.com; or **Marshall Cohen** at bigmarsh@verizon.net.

55 Send your news to Class President **John O'Brien** at anneobrien@comcast.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

56 Send your news to **Gretchen Wheelwright** at ggwpd@aol.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Nancy Blacher Shuster is still teaching her writing workshop. She writes: "Brown has been in my family a long time. Happy 2024 to my classmates."

58 Send your news to Class Secretary **Jill Hirst Scobie** at 15 Albert St., Waltham, Mass. 02453; jill.scobie@alumni.brown.edu or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

65TH REUNION

59 Send your news to Class Secretary **Caryl-Ann Miller Nieforth** at 161 Everett Ave., Providence 02906; carylann189a@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

60 Send your news to Class Communications Chair **Jane Doane Anderson** at janeanderson1960@comcast.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

61 Send your news to Class Secretary **Beth Burwell Griffiths** at nhbeth773@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

David Parent writes: "Cathy and I ended the year with a live-in home care aide and a handicapped van. That would sound grim to most, but actually we are pretty happy. It is far easier to go places in the van as opposed to trying to stuff someone into a car. Cathy is starting to make some real progress in her recovery from what her neurologist believes is a rare form of Parkinson's. At the time of writing, winter has finally arrived and the people who decamped to Florida can feel well pleased with themselves. We are enjoying a beautiful snowscape from our cozy apartment. We hope that the person who is writing the definitive text on being in love in one's eighties has discarded items such as 'afterglow' and 'warm embers.' Anthracite fired boilers producing steam heat is more appropriate, if less romantic a term. I

am keeping busy with the Coast Guard Auxiliary, the Wallingford Planning and Zoning Commission, and our small business. We are looking forward to the reunion and hope that this email finds everyone healthy and happy."

62 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu. Class copresidents **Len Charney** and **Dale Burg** continue to reach out to each other and other classmates through Zoom reunions, a custom started by **Helene Schwartz** and **Kevin** four years ago. "These virtual meetings usually start with a suggested theme, such as book recommendations, what kind of fitness routine do you follow, etc. (anything but politics!), though they often go off topic." Len organized a Brown '62 guys Zoom Reunion during the pandemic with **Win Himsworth** and **Bob Saquet** and hopes there is interest in more Zoom gatherings going forward. Any alumnus from '62 interested in participating should contact him at ljcesq@gmail.com.

63 Send your news to Class Secretary **Barbara Smith Langworthy** at blangworthy63@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Class Secretary **Barbara Smith Langworthy** reports that the Class of '63 received two awards at the March Volunteer Summit: the Brown Annual Fund Participation Award and the Association of Class Leaders (ACL) Class of the Year Award. In addition, Barbara received the ACL Nan Tracy '46 Award. "In 1988, on the occasion of our 25th reunion, the men of the class of '63 endowed a scholarship in the amount of \$136K to be awarded each year. The scholarship has been awarded yearly since that time. Under Brown's guidance, the fund has thrived and is available to help many more students. We are very proud of this endeavor. The Class of '63 has embarked on an online update of our 50th Reunion yearbook, an initiative of **Larry Gross**. If you are a member of the class and have not received the updated bios of your classmates, please check your email address in the Brown directory or contact Larry at lr144@aol.com. Thanks to the many who have responded. We have a mini-reunion planned for Sept. 10-12 in Portsmouth, N.H." If you have not received information on this and are interested, please contact Barbara Langworthy at blangworthy63@gmail.com.

60TH REUNION

64 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu. **Rich Ulmer** writes: "As my 60th reunion weekend approaches, my 31st year of efforts to replace the use of hundreds

of thousands of animals (mostly rabbits and mice) with globally approved non-animal test technologies continues. I retired briefly after 30 years in pharmaceuticals, having been president of Allergan while acquiring Botox. Then within months, I joined InVitro International on a five-year plan to advance a flailing start-up with their pioneering technologies. I'm still here with wonderful purpose and promise each day of a blessed life. A strange pathway indeed for one who did not take a science course at Brown or Harvard. All the best in '24."

65 Send your news to Class Co-Vice President for Communications **Terri Alschuler Hale** at vanhale43@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Paul Knutson writes: "After 51 years at 16 Highfield Road we finally did it and found a lovely ground floor apartment for easier living. Life continues to be lucky (but we're not planning too far ahead)."

66 Send your news to Class Cosecretary **Jaclyne Horn Laxon** at jlaxon@comcast.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Don Bernardo published a historic novel-la called *The Lost Colony of Roanoke Island on the Outer Banks of North Carolina and the Legend of the Snow White Doe*. Don writes: "It is about Sir Walter Raleigh's failed attempt to establish the first English colony in America and concludes with a magical love story about Virginia Dare, the first English child born in the New World. It can be purchased from me at donaldbernardo484@gmail.com."

67 Send your news to class copresidents **Sharon Drager** at sbdrager@sbcglobal.net; **Keith Mosher** at keithnote@sbcglobal.net; Class Treasurer **Dave Chichester** at davidchichester1@gmail.com; or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

David Chichester and his family are faring well. He writes that his daughter Lynn and her fiancé Henry Wheaton plan to marry this August. His granddaughter Finley, 19, is a freshman at William & Mary, a midfielder on the lacrosse team, and has proven to be handling college really well. Harper, 17, is a senior in high school and a captain of the crew team. She has attended tons of concerts this past year, is applying to college, and is by far the best artist in the family. Lowell, 14, is in 8th grade, plays soccer, is president of the technology student association at school, and keeps busy with volunteer work at the church. Lindsey, 4, is tearing up preschool and J.P., 9, is in 3rd grade and busy with Taekwondo,

"We hope that the person who is writing the text on being in love in one's eighties has discarded items such as 'afterglow' and 'warm embers.'"

—David Parent '61

soccer, and pranks. All the big kids are thriving in their respective lines of work. Hilde and David (who had a hip replacement in May) resumed travel in 2023. From New York City, they took the Queen Mary 2 Atlantic crossing to England, Belgium, Holland, and Scotland. After coming home, they traveled east to Providence (for Brown soccer alumni weekend) and Philadelphia. David and his wife were visited by two sets of friends, including classmate **Brian Murphy** and wife, **Terry Simon Murphy** '67 MAT, as well as Lynn and Henry. They immersed themselves in the history of "this great country of ours." Recently, they also saw lots of the Hoffman family branch and finished November with a wonderful Thanksgiving at the home of Ted and Whit. David continues to serve as copresident of the Sports Foundation, chair of the Men's Soccer Association, and member of the Veterans Advisory Council.

68 Send your news to Communications Cochair **Ginger Ignatoff** at ginge18.bronx@yahoo.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

55TH REUNION

69 Send your news to **Linda Antonucci** at antonucci@att.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

70 Send your news to Class Vice President of Communications **Geri Williams** at geri3williams@comcast.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

IN THE NEWS

Houston Chamber Choir founder and Artistic Director **Robert Simpson** '70 announced his retirement at the end of the 2024-2025 season. He founded Houston Chamber Choir in 1995 and the choir has grown and flourished artistically over the years, receiving a Grammy Award in 2020 for Best Choral Performance. In addition, the Houston Chamber Choir, under his leadership, has presented several world premieres and received prestigious choral awards, including the Michael Korn Founders Award for Development of the Professional Choral Art.

Geri Lemoi Williams reports that the officers and Reunion Chairs **Elaine Berlinsky Fain** and **Janice Kruger** have started planning with their alumni representative for the 55th Reunion which will take place Friday, May 23, through Sunday, May 25, 2025. "We plan to have plenty of activities and time to reconnect as Covid canceled our in-person 50th Reunion. We'll use our healthy class treasury to defray costs to enable all who want to attend. If you would like to stay in a hotel, you should make your reservations right away as there are limited rooms in Providence hotels and they fill up fast. To boost enthusiasm, share some information by sending a note to me, Class Communications Chair at geri3williams@comcast.net. I will collect notes and send out Class of '70 newsletters."

71 Send your news to class co-vice presidents for communications **Darrell Davidson** at dddavids@iupui.edu; **Harry L. Watson** at hwatson@email.unc.edu; or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

72 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu. **Charlotte Taft** writes that she will publish *Without Permission*, the first of a trilogy that will launch on Amazon in early June.

73 Send your news to Class Communications Cochair **Mary Hutchings Reed** at mhreed3@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

50TH REUNION

74 Send your news to class co-vice presidents for communications **Scott Harris** at sharris@alumni.brown.edu; **Jim Morris** at jimmorris@alumni.brown.edu; or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Bob Condon writes: "I had the privilege to give the closing remarks at the 25th anniversary celebration of Community Partners International (CPI) in San Francisco. This event brought together a group of doctors and public health experts that I have worked with for 33 years. For eight years I ran a small nonprofit with a charismatic young doctor before merging with another group with more of a public

BROWN'S NEW LIFE SCIENCES RESEARCH FACILITY WILL BRING TOGETHER BIOLOGISTS, ENGINEERS, PHYSICIANS, STUDENTS AND OTHERS TO ADDRESS COMPLEX HUMAN HEALTH CHALLENGES.

A Vibrant Ecosystem for Life Sciences Innovation

By Debra Bradley Ruder '80

Brown will propel collaboration across academic specialties to tackle formidable human health challenges, fueled by a state-of-the-art life sciences research facility.

Brown is developing a comprehensive biomedical ecosystem where the ingenuity and passion of faculty, students and staff from across scientific fields of study will translate pioneering research into solutions for daunting human health problems, from cancer to dementia.

At the core of this vision is a new, state-of-the-art integrated life sciences research facility planned for Providence's Jewelry District. Building on Brown's hallmark collaborative culture, the facility will bring together biomedical investigators, engineers, physicians, computer scientists, applied mathematicians and entrepreneurs to work together to improve patient outcomes, in partnership with Brown's three closely affiliated health systems.

The University is well positioned to translate laboratory discoveries into treatments to benefit patients and communities locally and globally, with what Brown leaders describe as a distinctive approach to creating a home for integrated life sciences. They say it is the most ambitious project in the University's history.

"This will be the largest academic laboratory facility in Rhode Island," says Russell Carey, executive vice president for planning and policy. "It's a signature project in Brown's commitment to advancing research for impact."

Leaders expect the investment will enable Brown investigators to accelerate breakthroughs in four key areas where they've already made

BROWN

BROUGHT TO YOU BY THE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

"This building meets a critical infrastructure need that ensures our [life sciences] research and discovery will continue to thrive and benefit communities near and far in meaningful ways."

– Dr. Mukesh K. Jain

critical progress: studying the biological causes of aging and age-related disorders; probing genetic and environmental risks for cancer and reducing cancer burden in Rhode Island; developing vaccines to thwart global infectious diseases; and conducting brain science to better understand conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, autism, addiction and depression.

The new facility will provide expanded laboratory space and cutting-edge technology for those programs, along with cross-cutting areas such as biomedical engineering and research on RNA, the genetic material that holds promise for treating or preventing serious illnesses.

The seven-story, 300,000-square-foot structure, located on Richmond Street and designed by the architecture firms TenBerke and Ballinger, will be within walking distance of Brown's Warren Alpert Medical School, Laboratories for Molecular Medicine and School of Professional Studies, as well as other buildings housing research, health and public health activities.



THE NEW STRUCTURE WILL FEATURE MODERN LABS, COLLABORATIVE SPACES AND AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE DESIGN.

A model of environmental sustainability, the facility is expected to continue spurring growth in the revitalized Jewelry District and help propel Rhode Island forward as a center for biotechnology innovation, according to Carey.

Dr. Mukesh K. Jain, senior vice president for health affairs and dean of medicine and biological sciences, says the life sciences ecosystem will support research ranging from molecular-level science to the latest developments in patient therapies, interventions and diagnostics.

"This project will increase our division's capacity to engage in world-class biomedical research, collaborate with colleagues across campus, and forge partnerships with biotech and pharma companies to turn discoveries into treatments more quickly," Jain says. "It will also give Brown students more opportunities to conduct patient-focused research."

Providing more life sciences research space is a long-time strategic priority that's central to the University's aim to expand research activities across all academic departments. Brown continues active fundraising for the project. Once construction begins, it's expected to take three to four years.

Sustainable Design

Planning for the project has involved approvals by the Corporation of Brown University, coordination with the city, and community meetings with residents and elected officials. It has also meant designing a fully electric structure to align with the University's commitment to reducing campus greenhouse gas emissions to net-zero by 2040.

"This will be one of the first all-electric laboratory buildings in New England operating on 100 percent renewable electricity, with backup for resiliency," says Stephen Porder, associate provost for sustainability and Acacia Professor of Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology and Environment and Society.

For temperature control during normal operations, Brown will use electric heat pumps that move heat from one space to another. Integrating heat pump technology into a large, ventilated laboratory facility "requires intentionality to eliminate onsite combustion for daily heating and minimize greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change," Porder explains.

Sustainable design is one of many ways the life sciences facility is expected to improve lives.

"Brown scientists, physicians and scholars are at the leading edge of work toward new discoveries and solutions that impact lives here in Rhode Island and across the globe," President Christina H. Paxson notes. "Our goal is to advance that positive impact even further."

THE CLASSES

health focus. This group was the start of CPI. Our initial project was setting up five satellite clinics on the Thai/Burma border working with local partners who were at war with the Burmese military. We were able to document how we virtually eliminated malaria in our border areas. With these results we were able to access multiple grants and other funding which launched CPI on a whole new path. CPI understood that the key to improving health services for the hard-to-reach communities was to support community-led and community-based local organizations as key service providers. Today CPI serves vulnerable communities in Myanmar, Thailand, Bangladesh, and Nepal. After many years serving on the board and coordinating development activity, I remain involved as board emeritus. CPI will put \$40 million to work in 2024. It has been a remarkable journey working with a group of extraordinary people."

Scott Harris writes: "The class of '74 continues connecting with periodic class Zooms titled 'Life's Journey after Brown.' We have heard from **Jeffrey Austerlitz '78 MD, Mike Balaban, Carol Norris Brown, Pam Constable, Larry Elder, Charles Tansey, and Catherine Vuozzo Ventura.**"

75 Send your news to Class Communications Chair **Rhonda Port Walker** at rpwalkerbhnj@verizon.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

76 Send your news to Class Communications Chair **Kevin Rudden** at kevin.rudden@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

77 Send your news to Class President **Kenneth Dill** at sixdills@hotmail.com or Class Co-Vice President **Lucinda Flowers** at lucindaflowers910@gmail.com.

Joanne Ahola '77 (see **Craig Convisar '06**).

78 Send your news to Class Vice President for Communications **Patsy Dimm** at patsydimm@msn.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Keith Maynard (see **Craig Convisar '06**).
Dr. Michele T. Pato published *Nerve* with Springer on Nov. 1. The publisher's synopsis reads: "With profound candor and humor, Dr. Pato chronicles her journey through the enormous physical, psychological, and emotional challenges encountered following her traumatic brain injury, treatment, and recovery." (see pg. 62)

"I've come a long way since torturing my dorm neighbors in Slater Hall with loud, out-of-tune guitar antics, I promise."

—**Jack Silverman '81**

45TH REUNION

79 Send your news to class communications cochairs **Charles Jackson** at charles.jackson@lakesidebook.com or jacksonsredsox@gmail.com; or to **Fred Cooper** at fcooper@tollbrothers.com; or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

80 Send your news to class cosecretaries **Mary Minow** at maryslibr@gmail.com and **Gina Brelsford** at brelsford@alumni.brown.edu, or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Terrence Hook writes: "I retired from IBM in 2018 after 38 years there, but I just can't let it go, so I continue to consult part-time for IBM Research out of Albany (N.Y.), calling in remotely from my farmhouse in Vermont. Our older daughter and our first grandchild live in Westchester County (N.Y.) awaiting baby brother's arrival. Our younger daughter lives in Los Angeles. Both fell rather far from the rural Vermont tree! Retirement is good and aside from the IBM work, we ride our horses, play golf, and ski (although not all at the same time)."

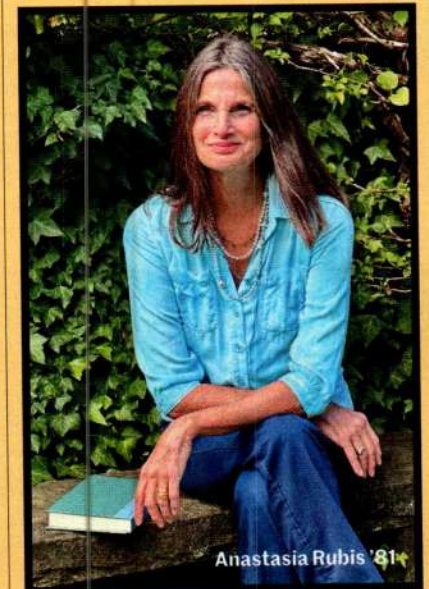
Peter Simonse writes: "My book, *Uncooperative Characters*, won the 2023 Best Indie Book Award for best short story collection. You can find samples of my work at PeteSimonsAuthor.com."

81 Send your news to Class Co-Vice President for Communications **Suzanne Curley** at suzo329@gmail.com or Class Co-Vice President **Charles Taylor** at ctaylor@htgroup.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Carrie Noland writes: "After 35 years of teaching at Columbia University, then the University of California, Irvine, I have retired."

I've published four books on 19th and 20th century artists/writers and I've learned much from teaching the large population of first generation students at UCI, as well as graduate students both in the United States and Europe. I had the privilege of directing the UC system's education abroad program in France, where both my children, Julian, 32 and Francesca, 26, were able to go to school and learn French. A grandmother of two, I intend to spend my retirement starting a new career as a fiction writer. I'll also spend more time advocating for action to protect the planet and for the protection of voting rights with a political organization I adore—Sister District. Join me! A shout out to my friends from the classes of 1979, 1980, and 1981; may you all be thriving."

Anastasia "Stacy" Rubis published her first novel, *Oriana*, with Delphinium Books after working on it for 11 years. It follows the



Anastasia Rubis '81

life and loves of legendary journalist Oriana Fallaci. Contact Stacy at: stacyrubis100@gmail.com.

Jack Silverman is currently living in Nashville with his wife, visual artist Wendy Walker Silverman. He released an album titled *Prince of Shadows* under the Centripetal Force Records label. He writes: "The music weaves elements of psychedelic rock, jazz noir, and improvisation to create an immersive musical experience—what might best be described as a soundtrack collaboration between Angelo Badalamenti, Pink Floyd, and the Lounge

IN THE NEWS

The Science Coalition recognized U.S. Senator **Maggie Hassan '80** as a 2024 Champion of Science. The Science Coalition is a nonpartisan organization of more than 50 of the nation's leading public and private research institutions. In an interview with *Manchester Ink Link*, Hassan says, "Science is necessary for informed decision making, for innovation that leads to economic growth, and for maintaining a high quality of life."

 **Like**

 **Share**

 **Learn**

 **Connect**

Keeping tabs on Brunonia has never been easier.

*Stay up to date on the latest Brown happenings,
revel in the accomplishments of fellow Brunonians,
and connect with like-minded alumni.*



Expand your connection with Brown.
Scan the QR code to explore resources,
communities, and opportunities.



BROWN
Alumni & Friends



Good things happen
when **we work together.**

We're proud to partner with Brown Alumni Association. To learn more about Liberty Mutual auto and home insurance, please call us at 1-888-519-5644, or visit libertymutual.com/brownalumni.



THE CLASSES

"It's important and beautiful and challenging and uncomfortable, and it deserves to be seen—especially this year."

—Kim Triedman '81 and Kathryn Geeismar '81

Lizards. It was produced by Roger Moutenot (Yo La Tengo, Sleater-Kinney, Lambchop). You can buy a vinyl LP or a download at jacksilvermanquartet.bandcamp.com. I've come a long way since I was torturing my dorm neighbors in Slater Hall with loud, out-of-tune guitar antics, I promise. And check out Wendy's art at wendywalkersilverman.com."

Kim Triedman and Kathryn Geeismar celebrated their Boston art exhibit, *Burning Down The House: Women and Art in an Uncertain World*. The show opened on January 11 through February 11 at Brickbottom Gallery and then travels on to other New England locations, including the PEG Center for Arts and Activism and possibly Hera Gallery (R.I.). Kim writes: "It's important and beautiful and challenging and uncomfortable, and it deserves to be seen—especially this year. Five women artists of a certain age—and a lot to say! I do hope you're able to get by."

82 Send your news to Class Vice President for Communications **Liza Boyajian** at lizaboyajian@gmail.com; or Class Copresident **Roger Baumgarten** at rogerbaum@comcast.net.

Pamela Gwyn Kripke published *And Then You Apply Ice*, a story collection in March 2024 with Open Books. The characters in each of the 21 stories manage transgression, revealing the complex resilience that imbues women's lives.

83 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu. **Eric Jay Dolin** announces the publication of his latest book *Left for Dead: Shipwreck, Treachery, and Survival at the Edge of the World*. This is a true story of a wild and fateful encounter between an American sealing vessel, a shipwrecked British brig, and a British warship in the Falkland archipelago during the War of 1812. A tale of intriguing complexity, with surprising twists and turns throughout, *Left for Dead* shows individuals in wartime under great duress acting both nobly and atrociously, and offers a unique perspective on a pivotal era in American mar-

itime history. Eric still lives in Marblehead, Mass., with his wife, Jennifer. To find out where he is speaking on *Left for Dead*, visit ericjaydolin.com/events.

Barbara Weiss Kimmel will publish her children's book *Hanukkah Hippity-Hop*, with Kar-Ben Publishing on Oct. 1, just in time for Hanukkah. Barbara writes: "I'm so excited about my first book for kids. *Hanukkah Hippity-Hop* is a cute interactive book that will have toddlers dancing along as they learn about Hanukkah."

40TH REUNION

84 Send your news to Class Communications Chair **Joan Winter Skerritt** at joan_skerritt@alumni.brown.edu or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Gretchen McCullough published *Shahrazad's Gift*, a collection of linked stories published by Cune Press in February 2024. Gretchen has lived in Cairo for more than 20 years and can be reached at gretchen@aucegypt.edu.

85 Send your news to class communications cochairs **Ellen Taschioglou Parsons** at ellenparsons@gmail.com; or **Daniel Sterman** at daniel.sterman@gmail.com.

Liam G.B. Murphy writes: "A lot's happened since I last wrote in 2019. My daughter Emily graduated from Oberlin from our side yard courtesy of the pandemic and is now an award-winning paralegal for Legal Aid Society of Cleveland. My son Tom decided that, after working two school jobs back-to-back 10 hours a day during the pandemic, he would get a master's and teach. Sue continues as a writing instructor and faculty developer, and I learned how to manage a law firm remotely and try cases by Zoom. Just before Covid, my friends surprised me with nominations for both the Boy Scouts' Silver Beaver and the Outstanding Eagle Scout awards. To try to stay sane during the pandemic, I also worked with my public library board to keep the library open and with the St. Anthony Educational Foundation to support continued undergraduate scholarship and anti-racism work despite the disruption of Covid. I was very pleased to be back in Providence in January at St. Anthony Hall's national conference to celebrate the anniversary of Brown's Kappa Chapter and at the time of this writing, I'm looking forward to coming back in May for the Jaberwock's 75th."

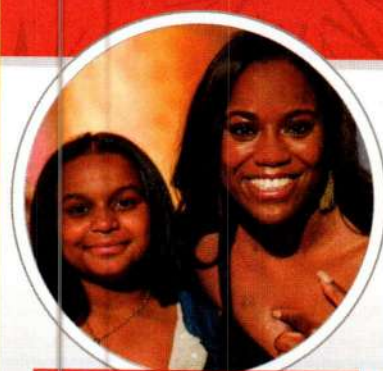
Calvin Walker has earned the distinction of board certification in healthcare management as a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. Living in Dacula, Ga., he currently serves as the director of Health Services at Presbyterian Village Athens.



LEUKEMIA &
LYMPHOMA
SOCIETY

ARE YOU A
VISIONARY?

JOIN THE
FIGHT
AGAINST
BLOOD
CANCER



Zariyah & Paula
blood cancer survivors



Learn more at
LLS.org/Visionary

THE CLASSIFIEDS

To place a classified ad, use our online form: ads.brownalumnimagazine.com. For inquiries and information, contact Advertising Director Kerry Lachmann via email at BAMads@brown.edu or by leaving a voicemail at (401) 863-1898.

FINANCIAL

USING PRIMARILY index fund investments, One Day In July fiduciary financial advisors work with individuals and institutions across the U.S. on everything from IRAs and brokerage accounts to pensions, inheritances and endowments. Discover the difference working with a low fee, fiduciary financial advisor can make in 2024. onedayinjury.com

EDUCATION

MAKE PLAYDATES for your kids with their Classmates. classmateplaydate.com

PERSONALS

DATING SITE for the Ivy League. Blue-Match.com

SPECIAL VIP INVITATION extended to male alumni ages 35-80. The Right Time Consultants has been successfully working with accomplished single Ivy educated professionals for almost 18 years. We are expanding our work to prioritize Brown Alumni and match like-minded eligible men

to our very attractive female clients. Bio & photo in confidence to sandy@therighttimeconsultants.com, 212-627-0121.

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

SERENBE, CHATTAHOOCHEE HILLS, GEORGIA. Curious about Serenbe, the biophilic community outside Atlanta? madviolettecottages.com; madviolettecottage@gmail.com

TRAVEL/TOURS

EXPERT-LED archaeological, gastronomic and cultural tours and gulet cruises. Multi-award-winning Peter Sommer Travels. petersommer.com.

VACATION RENTALS

KENNEBUNKPORT, ME. Beachfront rental GRB. 3 bed; 2 bath raised ranch w/ wraparound deck. Overlooks 2.5 mile sandy beach. \$7800/wk plus sales tax. Availability in Aug-Sept-Oct. 207-590-3156

SOUTHERN RI BEACHES. 430-ft studio with small deck, 10-15 min drive from

beaches, 25 mins to Newport. Sleeps 2, \$900/week. Avail May-Sept. airbnb/h/sunnyskystudio.

PERSONALS



NOTHING COMPARES TO WHAT'S NEXT

The Right Time consultants
Curated Matchmaking Services for Men & Women

**SPRING - SUMMER
A TIME FOR ROMANCE
AND ADVENTURE**

When you become our client, we'll navigate your search successfully, confidentially, with great heart and substance.

There is no greater pleasure than helping you meet your compatible life partner.

Phone or write to arrange a consultation so we can assist you in finding "The One."

212 627 0121
sandy@therighttimeconsultants.com
therighttimeconsultants.com

86 Send your news to Class Communications Chair **Cecilia Francesca Pineda** at ceciliafpineda@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

87 Send your news to Class President **Pamela D. Gerrol** at classof1987@alumni.brown.edu or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

88 Send your news to Class Vice President for Communications **Vinny Egizi** at vinnymass@yahoo.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Amelie Hastie published *Columbo: Make Me a Perfect Murder*, on Feb. 6 with Duke University Press. She writes: "In a way I've been

writing it since I was a kid, as it was one of my favorite series growing up in the 1970s, and, even practically speaking, it's been a long time coming, so I'm very happy to have it now out in the world. It's my third book; my first was *Cupboards of Curiosity: Women, Recollection, and Film History* with Duke University Press and the second was a British Film Institute Film Classics volume on Ida Lupino's 1953 film *The Bigamist*. I am the Nancy and Douglas D. Abbey '71 Professor of English and Film and Media Studies at Amherst College. I'm also the faculty director of the Schupf Fellows

IN THE NEWS

Donna McGraw Weiss '89 has been elected chair of the board of directors of Communities in Schools, an organization with the mission of surrounding students with communities of support, empowering them to stay in school and achieve. She has served for nearly two decades as a national board member of the organization and previously as board chair of Communities in Schools of Los Angeles.

Summer Program at the college. I currently live in Northampton, Massachusetts, and I'd love to be back in touch with Brown alums." Contact Amelie at: ahastie@amherst.edu.

Elizabeth Berenstein Stix's short story collection, *Things I Want Back From You*, comes out from Black Lawrence Press in June 2024. Stories from the book have appeared in *McSweeney's*, *Tin House*, the *Los Angeles Times* Sunday magazine, and elsewhere. The short story "Alice" won the Bay Guardian Fiction Prize and was optioned by Sneaky Little Sister Films.

THE CLASSES

35TH REUNION

89 Send your news to Class President **Michael Tate** at ivyleagueboy1989@yahoo.com.

90 Send your news to Class President **Jonathan Steinberg** at jonathan.steinberg.90@alumni.brown.edu; or Class Communications Chair **Courtney Wilson** at courtneywilson@yahoo.com.

Amelia Demopulos (see **Harold Demopulos '46**).

Garrett Fitzgerald writes: "I'm now working for the University of Maine System on the UMaine campus as a senior programmer analyst focusing on the Peoplesoft student records system. I'm also working on a second bachelor's in music, as it was always a goal of mine for the CS degree to pay for a music degree some day."

Chikashi Miyamoto just published her first e-book, *An Insider's Guide to Authentic Kyoto for Foodies: A Curated List of Where to Eat and Drink in Kyoto*. She writes: "The guide is about gourmet food, drink, and things related to gastronomy. It is not for everyone. It was curated specifically for foodies. If you are a foodie this curated gourmet guide is a great shortcut, a valuable timesaver to access the gems of Kyoto, a city with tremendous depth and breadth. The book includes practical information about Kyoto restaurants including addresses on Google Maps, hours, price ranges, as well as other practical tips. You will learn about some context: history, ingredients, methods, etc. Knowing some background enhances your dining experience, allowing you to discern certain details that you might miss otherwise. Many of the featured establishments have been around for generations, some for hundreds of years. It is available to download from Amazon." Contact Chikashi at: cmiyamoto@alumni.brown.edu.

Ainissa Ramirez completed her four-month fellowship at the Library of Congress, where she was the Kluge Chair in Technology and Society. She is currently conducting research on materials in history for a new book. While in D.C., she was thrilled to reconnect with **Tehani Callazo '91**, **Walter Gray**, and **Malika Saada Saar '92**. She writes: "Being around books and wonderful friends from Brown felt like a homecoming, of sorts."

Jonathan Yoder writes: "On Friday, October 13, 2023, I made my first and so far only return to Brown since graduating. This was a great joy. In my journal I noted, 'We made it to Brown! What a joy and a victory.' And my mother, Susan, was with me. We had a great time walking around. I showed her Pembroke (my freshman dorm) and other sites. It was Family Weekend, so a visiting spirit was in

Inscribe your name on College Hill.

Purchase a brick in the Maddock Alumni Center's commemorative alumni brick walkway and become part of Brown's enduring legacy.



BROWN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

brown.edu/go/BAM/walkway

Support the BAM

Innovation. Connection. Superb crackers.

Help us continue bringing you the best!

Donate online at brownalumnimagazine.com

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO BECOME A DOCTOR

- Intensive, full-time preparation for medical school in one year
- Early acceptance programs at select medical schools—more than any other postbac program
- Supportive, individual academic and premedical advising

VISIT US AT WWW.BRYNMAWR.EDU/POSTBAC

POSTBAC@BRYNMAWR.EDU
610-526-7350



POSTBACCALAUREATE
PREMEDICAL PROGRAM
BRYN MAWR COLLEGE

ATHENA PHEROMONES™ INCREASE AFFECTION



Created by Winnifred Cutler, Ph.D. in biology from U. Penn, postdoc Stanford. In 1986 co-discovered human pheromones. Effective for 74% in two 8-week studies and 68% in a 3rd study.

PROVEN EFFECTIVE IN 3 PUBLISHED STUDIES



INCREASE YOUR ATTRACTIVENESS

Vial of 1/6oz. lasts 4-6 months
Athena 10X™ For Men \$99.50
10:13™ For Women \$98.50
Cosmetics Free U.S. Shipping

♥ Ed (TN) 32 orders "I have been buying since 1999. I wanted to give you a compliment on your 10X product... It is the best product I ever had in my life! You ask what it does for me? Well for one thing, it has increased my love life. Thank you very much!"

♥ Ann (TX) "I love it! It brings all the fireworks."

Not in stores 610-827-2200
Athenainstitute.com

Athena Inst. Braefield Rd Chester Spgs, PA 19425 BAM



THE CLASSES

the air, students and parents walking about. I showed my mother the English department, where I had visited late professor and poet Michael S. Harper during his office hours, and where he had rigorously advised me on life and instilled hope and encouragement in me for the long run. How sad to learn he died. I will always cherish his mailed notes on 3x5-inch tan index cards. I reported all this to **David Reinstein** and **Tim Tibbitts** in the hope they can give themselves and their loved ones the same treat sometime."

91 Send your news to Class Communications Cochair **Gayle Weiswasser** at gweiswasser@gmail.com.

Anne Tamar-Mattis writes: "After many years as an LGBTQI community activist, social-justice lawyer, and nonprofit executive, my career has taken a new and very interesting turn. I am now running a (legal, medically supervised) psychedelic medicine clinic in Sebastopol, California, with my physician spouse. In my free time, I am still riding horses and enjoying life on the queer kibbutz where we raised our kids. Anyone who wants to connect or learn more about psychedelic medicine and ketamine therapy can reach me at Liminal Medicine, liminal-med.com."

Ramona Thomas visited the D.C. area over the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend. She reunited with fellow class members **Hillarie Flood**, **Matt McGuire**, **Lori Jackson**, and **Kerrie Thomas-Armstrong** for an evening of festivities, great company and conversation.

"During his office hours, Michael S. Harper had rigorously advised me on life and instilled hope and encouragement in me for the long run."

—Jonathan Yoder '90

92 Send your news to Class Vice President for Communications **Jeffrey Wolfson** at jawolfson@comcast.net or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Resa Lewiss published the coauthored *MicroSkills: Small Actions, Big Impact* in April with HarperCollins. She writes: "The book is a business self-help book with a focus on educating the ready-for-college, ready-for-work, and early stage career professionals on specific, actionable, strategies to be better at work."

93 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Diane Greco Josefowicz published a novella through Regal House's new Fugere series. *L'Air du Temps* (1985) is set in the fictional suburb of Maple Bay and follows a prickly, foul-mouthed, but mostly

good-hearted teenager named Zinnia Zompa whose life is upended when her family is implicated in the fatal shooting of a neighbor. Diane writes: "The early press coverage for the book has been encouraging. In a recent review for *Motif RI*, Mara Hagen-Spath described it as 'a layered novella about the juxtaposed relationships we have with our family, our communities, and ourselves.' It also earned glowing advance praise from Clare Beams, Robin McLean, and **Kirstin Allio** '99 MFA."

Mike Zamore writes: "I was on campus on Feb. 12 doing a day with the Masters of Public Affairs program and a book event with the Watson Institute. I'm now the national director of policy & government affairs at the ACLU after 22 years working on Capitol Hill, the last 14 as Senator Jeff Merkley's chief of staff. The senator and I wrote the book *Filibustered!* to bust some myths about the Senate's history, lay bare the ways in which the current version of the Senate is instrumental in the erosion of democracy that so many of us are concerned about, and chart a path to viable solutions that can restore the Senate's crucial role as a functioning legislative body."

30TH REUNION

94 Send your news to Vice President for Communications **Erica Wines** at ericajwines@gmail.com.

Abigail Demopoulos (see **Harold Demopoulos** '45).

Katie Silberman writes: "After nearly a decade in Brown's Office of Government & Community Relations, I am thrilled to join the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society (IBES) as director of strategic operations. I encourage classmates in town for our 30th reunion to stop by IBES's office at 85 Waterman Street, say hi, and enjoy the greenhouse and lovely Maya Lin fountain. Outside of work, I'm a busy soccer mom to two teenage boys and enjoying the charms of life in Little Rhody."

95 Send your news to class communications cochairs **Erin Mancuso Hobey** at ehobey@gmail.com, or **Atabey Sanchez-Haiman** at atabeysh@gmail.com.

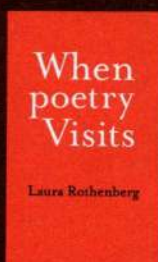
Andrew S. Jacobs published his fourth book, *Gospel Thrillers: Conspiracy, Fiction, and the Vulnerable Bible*, with Cambridge University Press. Harvard Divinity School's Center for the Study of World Religions, where he is a senior fellow, hosted a March book launch.

Anh Chi Pham writes: "I've been in Atlanta, Georgia, for five years. I'm not sure if that makes me a Southerner yet, but my husband and I are grateful for our home, our three fur babies and the beautiful trees, creeks and



From left: Ramona Thomas, Hillarie Flood, Matt McGuire, Kerrie Thomas-Armstrong, Lori Jackson (all '91)

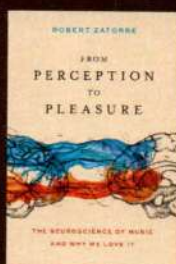
Fact, Fiction & Verse / Books by Brown Authors



When poetry Visits

Laura Rothenberg '03

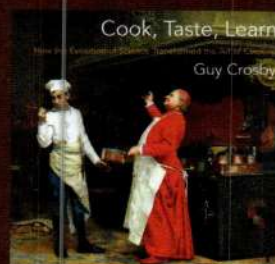
The poetry in the book is about illness, friendship, family, death, lost innocence, survivor's guilt, and transcendence. Laura was in the class of '03. She was a talented young poet who experienced, and endured more in her short life than most people do by old age. bit.ly/3PylOIM



From Perception to Pleasure: The Neuroscience of Music and Why We Love It

Robert Zatorre '78 ScM, '81 PhD

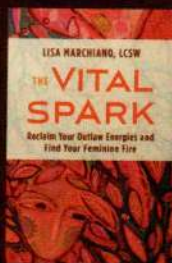
Provides an in-depth understanding of how music generates pleasure and emotion, based on the author's 40+ years working in music neuroscience. bit.ly/495OCT1



Cook, Taste, Learn: How the Evolution of Science Transformed the Art of Cooking

Guy Crosby '69 PhD

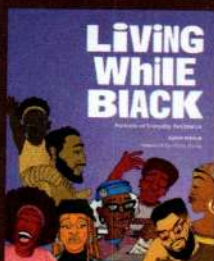
Cook, Taste, Learn elegantly intertwines history, chemistry, anthropology, and culinary science to create a captivating guided tour through the arc of human invention. An accessible and inspiring contribution to the history of science. amzn.to/4cortop



The Vital Spark: Reclaim Your Outlaw Energies and Find Your Feminine Fire

Lisa Mullins Marchiano '88

Women are discouraged from developing "difficult" qualities such as fierceness, disagreeableness, and shrewdness. This book guides readers in reclaiming their agency, cunning, and assertiveness. lisamarchiano.com



Living While Black: Portraits of Everyday Resistance

Ajuan Mance '88

Vivid illustrations celebrating Black people's small acts of resistance and candid, unsentimental captions convey a powerful message: No matter how strong the forces of oppression, Black people will persist in striving for justice, equality, and joy. chroniclebooks.com



No Son of Mine: A Memoir

Jonathan Corcoran '07

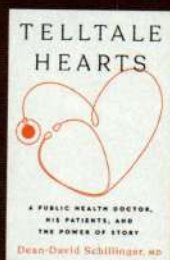
Corcoran's story of alienation and his attempts to understand his mother's choice to disown him when she learns he is gay. Through grief, anger, questioning, and growth, he explores the entwined yet separate histories and identities of his mother and himself. buff.ly/3OXFu2x



The Dean of New Things

John Mogulescu '68

Mogulescu's career demonstrates how change can happen in higher education. His team created two innovative colleges and dozens of programs that increased student success and broadened CUNY's mission to serve NYC. deanofnewthings.com



Telltale Hearts: A Public Health Doctor, His Patients, and the Power of Story

Dean-David Schillinger '86 MD

A narrative journey into the medical underground, where healthcare meets social reality in consequential ways. bit.ly/3TOK8HI

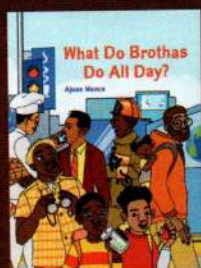


Without Permission

Charlotte Taft '72

What would YOU risk for justice? In occupied Paris Jane Smith risks it all. She is drawn into the world of illegal abortion and loses her heart to an admiral's daughter. First in a trilogy recounting the life of a woman who lives without permission, without authority, without apology. charlottetaft.com

Fact, Fiction & Verse cont'd / More Books by Brown Authors



What Do Brothas Do All Day?

Ajuan Mance '88

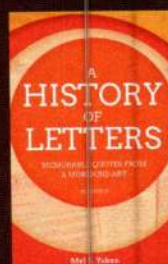
Brothas listen, laugh, and love. These joyous portraits of Black men engaged in everyday life capture the deep roots and rich cultures of Black communities. The book is perfect for parents and grandparents seeking engaging read-aloud and read-along picture books. chroniclebooks.com



Free Agent Learning: Leveraging Students' Self-Directed Learning to Transform K-12 Education

Julie A. Evans '79

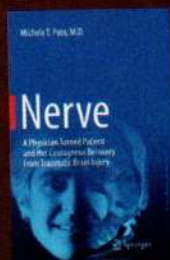
How and why K-12 students use technology to support self-directed learning outside of school—and the potential impact of those experiences on the future of education. a.co/d/iIng2le



A History of Letters: Memorable Quotes From a Moribund Art, Volume II

Mel B. Yoken '61 MAT

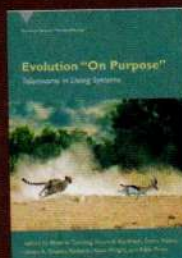
Mel Yoken published his 10th book Volume II: *A History of Letters: Memorable Quotes from A Moribund Art* containing profound insights, intimate revelations and authentic voices of 90 luminaries who corresponded with the author. melyoken.com



Nerve

Dr. Michele Tortora Pato '78

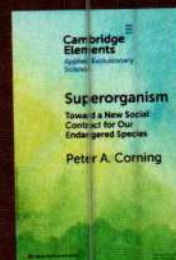
With profound candor and humor, Dr. Pato chronicles her journey through the enormous physical, psychological, and emotional challenges encountered following her traumatic brain injury, treatment, and recovery. link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-33433-7



Evolution "On Purpose"

Peter A. Corning '56 PhD et al. eds.

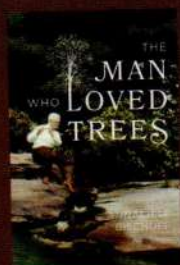
It is now widely accepted that living systems exhibit an evolved purposiveness, or teleonomy. It is one of the most important but least understood aspects of living systems. complexsystems.org (MIT Press)



Superorganism

Peter A. Corning '56 PhD

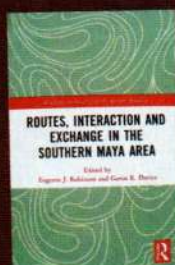
We live in a world with an increasingly shared fate—a "superorganism." However, the future is in serious jeopardy. Here is a comprehensive prescription. "What an extraordinary, well-researched, and well-expressed book." John Jeavons, *Ecology Action*. amzn.to/3vCZwZq



The Man Who Loved Trees

Annaliese Bischoff '74

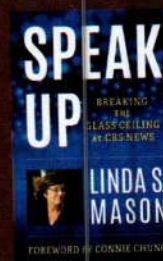
Frank Waugh, landscape architecture professor and prolific author, turned late in life to creating etchings of the trees he loved. This book presents 30 of his etchings, many recently discovered, and tells the story of the man who made them. bit.ly/497RvcF



Routes, Interaction and Exchange in the Southern Maya Area

Eugenia J. Robinson '70 (coedited with Gavin Davies)

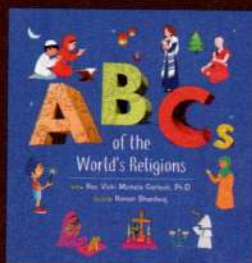
This book explores routes of exchange in the Southern Maya area with Olmec, Teotihuacan, Maya, Aztec, colonial and modern peoples. It uses state of the art GIS technologies. Routledge.com/9780367404246



SPEAK UP: Breaking the Glass Ceiling at CBS News

Linda S. Mason '64

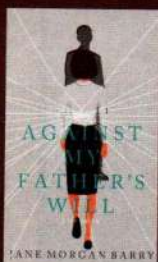
Speak Up charts Mason's career from her days as a desk assistant to breaking barriers as the first female producer at CBS News and helping other women follow in her footsteps in the television news industry. a.co/d/3Go0MJX; bit.ly/4cpO3x4



ABCs of the World's Religions

Rev. Vicki Michela Garlock '86 PhD

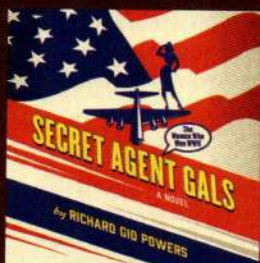
Explore basic concepts and similarities/differences across the world's major faith traditions in a non-devotional, age-appropriate way with this Book Excellence Award winner. Promotes religious literacy and cultural competence in kids aged 4-10. amzn.to/43ti36Z



Against My Father's Will: A Memoir

Jane Morgan Barry with Margaret Barry '06

Female activists are often perceived as audacious. In her revealing memoir, Barry shatters that preconception as we eavesdrop on her inner battles. To assert herself, she must first confront...herself. The doubt, the fear, the disillusionment—how many women can relate? bit.ly/3VEizOb



Secret Agent Gals

Richard Gid Powers '69 PhD

Laugh your way through World War II as Secret Agents Peggy and Hilla save America from Nazis, Reds, Irishmen, and hostile Indians. Every page is guaranteed to be funny, dirty, and/or stupid. bit.ly/3J8EG7H

THE CLASSES

hills that surround us. Like most classmates, I celebrated my half-century mark and have been reflecting on my life and how I would like to live it for the time that remains. After working in the corporate world, then pursuing creative writing, I am still at my third profession—as a yoga therapist and nervous system coach at Emory Healthcare. I would love to hear from friends at connect@nervous-system-wisdom.com.”

97 Send your news to Class Co-Vice President for Communications **Brooke Davis Nalle** at bnalle@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

98 Send your news to Class Vice President for Communications **Michael Mancuso** at mikemancuso1323@yahoo.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Tyler Denmead was appointed Dean of College, Queens' College Cambridge. He also received recognition from FindAPhD.com as the 2023 PhD Supervisor of the Year in the United Kingdom.

25TH REUNION

99 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

00 Send your news to Class Communications Cochair **Naomi Ture** at naomiture@gmail.com.

Dr. **Mike Rubin** earned his doctorate in education in December 2023 from the University of the Cumberland. His dissertation study focused on the impact of authentic leadership on classroom innovation practices. He continues his work as a high school principal in Massachusetts, where he also serves as the state coordinator for the National Association of Secondary School Principals focusing on federal advocacy work. He can also still be heard regularly covering a variety of Brown sports for ESPN. Contact Mike at mike.rubin21@gmail.com.

01 Send your news to class co-vice presidents for communication **Jennifer Kraemer Gewertz** at jenkraem@yahoo.com or **Veronica Rotelli Vacca** at atvrvacca@gmail.com.

02 Send your news to Copresident **Waciuma Wanjohi** at waciuma@gmail.com.

Alison M. Friedman writes: “I’m into my third year ‘from China to Carolina,’ leading Carolina Performing Arts at UNC Chapel Hill

“This is a celebration of common ground between sports and the arts... Game recognizes game!”

—**Alison M. Friedman '02**

after 20 years in Beijing and Hong Kong. Last year we launched our video series *Athletes are Artists / Artists are Athletes*. The first features prior UNC men’s basketball player Caleb Love and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater dancer Michael Jackson Jr. showing off the height and hangtime of leaps and layups. The second video features UNC women’s soccer star Sam Meza with MacArthur Genius grant winning tap dancer Michelle Dorrance, showing off percussive kicks and fancy footwork. This initiative is a celebration of common ground between the sports world and the arts world. In this series, we bring this intersection to life, intensifying appreciation for both spheres. Game recognizes game!”

03 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Raffi Bilek published his first book, *The First Ten Letters* with Mosaica Press in February. The book is available on Amazon and in the Brown Bookstore.

20TH REUNION

04 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

06 Send your news to Class Co-Vice President for Communications **Jessica Pesce** at jessica.pesce@gmail.com or directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Erian Christian is pleased to share that the *New York Times* listed his most recent book of nonfiction, *The Alignment Problem*, as one of the “5 Best Books About Artificial Intelligence.” In fact, the newspaper writes: “If you’re going to read one book on artificial intelligence, this is the one.”

Two reunion classes came together when **Craig Convisar** married **Philip Maynard '11** on Oct. 14, 2023. Craig writes that the joyful gathering in Beacon, N.Y. was attended by Brunonians galore, including proud parents **Joanne Ahola '77** and **Keith Maynard '78**, as well as friends **Jennifer Gordon Collier**, **Rebecca Dorfman**, **Ella Evans-Aguilar '11**,

THE CLASSES



From left: Suzanne Farer '06, Karin Miller '11, David Smith '11, Joanne Ahola '77, Maxine Sharavsky Garret '05, Philip Maynard '11, Craig Convissar '06, Ella Evans-Aguir '11, Jennifer Gordon Collier '06, Serin Seçkin '11, Rebecca Dorfman '06, Larry Livornese '11, Rachel Mehlsak '06

Suzanne Farer, Maxine Sharavsky Garret '05, Larry Livornese '11, Karin Miller '11, Rachel Mehlsak, Serin Seçkin '11 and David Smith '11. Contact Craig at craig.convissar@gmail.com.

Clare Frost writes: "My production company's debut feature film, *The Sisters Karras*, is available on AppleTV, Amazon, and other major platforms. I hope that the Brown community enjoys our film about family, success, legacy, and Greek textiles."

07 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Phoebe Lapine published *Carbivore: 130 Healthy Recipes to Stop Fearing Carbs and Embrace the Comfort Foods You Love* in March.

Christina Sanabria writes: "The children's music duo I'm a part of, 123 Andrés, won a Grammy for Best Children's Album for our most recent album, *We Grow Together*. We're also thrilled that the PBS Kids podcast that we are hosts of, *Jamming on the Job*, received an Excellence in Early Learning Digital Media Honor from American Library Association in January. Find *Jamming on the Job* on the PBS Kids app, and all podcast platforms, for 20-minute episodes about our

adventures learning about cool jobs your kiddos may want to explore in the future. I love meeting Brown alums and their kiddos at our concerts. Please find our concert listing online and say hi, or drop me a line at christina@123andres.com."

08 Send your news to Class Communications Cochair **Adam Axler** at adamaxler@gmail.com.

15TH REUNION

09 Send your news directly to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Mark Bloom and **Colleen Gribben Bloom** announce the Dec. 21 birth of their son Kiernan Ryan Bloom on Long Island, N.Y. Kiernan joins sister Grace Catherine.

10 Send your news to Class Co-Vice President for Communications **Christian A. Martell** at Christian_martell@alumni.brown.edu.

IN THE NEWS

The not-for-profit Unjournal, which funds public, journal-independent evaluation of hosted papers and dynamically presented projects by social scientists whose work has the potential to substantially impact global priorities, has awarded **Philip Trammell** '15 an inaugural Impactful Research Award.

martell@alumni.brown.edu.

Neko Catanzaro was named first runner-up in the *Saturday Evening Post's* 2024 Great American Fiction contest for her short story, "Old Growth."

11 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Ella Evans-Aguir, Larry Livornese, Philip Maynard, Rachel Mehlsak, Karin Miller, Serin Seçkin and David Smith (see **Craig Convissar '06**).

12 Send your news to **Aaron Nam** at aaronnam@gmail.com or directly to alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Kate Doyle published a debut short story collection, *I Meant It Once*, with Algonquin Books in the U.S. and with Corsair in the UK in 2023. The *Irish Times* calls the collection "quietly devastating" and the *Washington Post* says "Doyle's prose reads like Lydia Davis at her most arch and pensive."

Sam Rosenfeld writes: "My wife, Chloe, and I are now both elected members of the Representative Town Meeting in Greenwich, Connecticut! This is a 230-person elected body that passes town ordinances, approves annual town budgets, and more. Notably, we voted to improve air and noise quality by imposing a summer ban on gas-powered leaf blowers, a first step of many toward environmentally conscious changes in the coming years. The *Greenwich Time* put us on the front page of a January issue of the newspaper, which is crazy!"

13 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Lily Meyer '13 published her debut novel, *Short War*, in April with Deep Vellum Press.

10TH REUNION

14 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

16 Send your news to Class Vice President for Communications **Alexandra Garcia** at alexandragarcia531@gmail.com.

Jonah Newman announces his graphic novel *Out of Left Field*, which was published in March. As an author and illustrator, this debut book highlights his experiences as a closeted kid on a high school baseball team. He writes: "It's aimed at teenage readers, the LGBTQ+ community, and anyone who has experienced the awkwardness and challenges of discovering and embracing their true self."

17 Send your news to Class Copresident **Orlando E. Rodriguez** at landoi795@gmail.com.

5TH REUNION

19 Send your news to the BAM at alumni_magazine@brown.edu.

Sean Briody published his first book, *The Brown University Band: An Ever True History* with The History Press. The book dives into the history of Brown's beloved band in honor of its 100th anniversary in 2024. The back cover states "A 'scramble' band, rather than a traditional marching band, the Band provides cheeky entertainment on and off campus. Legendary antics from the world's only ice-skating band include the infamous bass drum heist by the 'Foxboro Four' and notable

halftime shows at hundreds of football games. While invariably adapting over the years, the band keeps school songs and spirit alive and maintains its longstanding traditions." Contact Sean at: seanbriody@gmail.com.

GS **Terry Simon Murphy '67** MAT (see **David Chichester '67**).

Robert Zatorre '78 ScM, '81 PhD is a professor of neuroscience at McGill University in Montreal. He published *From Perception to Pleasure: The Neuroscience of Music and Why We Love It* with Oxford University Press. He writes: "It is a kind of hybrid academic/trade book, meant to be accessible to intelligent nonspecialist readers but focuses on empirical findings and theoretical interpretations about how the brain enables us to perceive and derive pleasure from music." It a synthesis of many ideas and experimental findings (see pg. 61).

Dr. Susan M. Schneider '82 ScM celebrated the appearance of a Spanish translation of her award-winning trade book on learning principles, *The Science of Consequences: How They Affect Genes, Change the Brain, and Impact Our World*. She currently focuses on climate change.

Herman Beavers '83 AM, the Julie Beren Platt and Marc E. Platt President's Distinguished Professor of English and Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, has been elected second vice-president of the Modern Language Association. In 2026, he will become president of the MLA. He has taught African American Literature and Creative Writing at Penn since 1989.

Elizabeth Robinson '87 AM writes: "In the past five years I have been the recipient of a Pushcart Prize in Poetry and Editors' Choice Prizes from New Letters and Scoundrel Time. My new books of poetry are *Excursive* (Roof Books, 2023) and *Thirst & Surfeit* (ThreadSuns Press, 2023)."

Tricia Rose '87 AM, '93 PhD published *Metaracism: How Systemic Racism Devastates Black Lives—and How We Break Free* on March 5 with Basic Books. In the book she presents a bracing and powerful breakdown of why and how racism works today is most usefully discerned: as a system.

Liane Strauss '88 AM, '93 PhD writes: "My most recent book of poetry, *The Flaws in the Story*, won the Marsh Hawk Press Prize (judged by Mary Jo Bang) and was launched at Poets House in New York City in May 2024."

John Thompson '92 ScM, '98 PhD is a professor of physics at the University of Maine with a research focus in physics education. He is now in his second term as chair

"Legendary antics from the world's only ice-skating band include the infamous bass drum heist by the 'Foxboro Four' and notable halftime shows."

—Sean Briody '19

of the department of physics and astronomy at UMaine. He was elected a Fellow of the American Physical Society in 2023 "for performing seminal research on student use of mathematics in physics and the learning and teaching of thermal physics, for leading interdisciplinary collaborations and conferences, and for leadership in the physics education research community." He writes that he and his wife, Kate Dickerson, live in Bangor, Me., and have raised two children. Their daughter **Claire '24** is completing her senior year at Brown concentrating in theater and performance studies and in history.

Kirstin Allio '99 MFA (see **Diane Greco Josefowicz '93**).

Chris Norlund '03 AM published *Positive Angle: Reboot Your Mind, Live Your Awesome Life* on August 11, 2023. It is available on Amazon.

Stine An '20 MFA is one of 18 translators selected to receive a Literature Translation Fellowship of \$15,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts. This fellowship will support An's translation of *Today's Morning Vocabulary* by South Korean poet Yoo Heekyung into English.

Betty Gower '22 EMBA was appointed to the advisory board of BullseyeEngagement LLC, a leading provider of Cloud-based human capital management software solutions. She currently serves as the CMO for Xapa.com and the CEO of their marketing and strategy company. At Xapa, she spearheads a tech company that leverages dynamic digital learning tools for soft skills and personal enrichment in gamified training environments. She is also the founder of Market Ninja, a consulting agency that helps to empower small to midsize businesses with cost effective marketing offerings ranging from focused tools to full service strategy and implementation consulting.

MD **Jeffrey Austerlitz '78** MD (see **Scott Harris '74**).

IN THE NEWS

Contify Life Science News reported **David Lyden '89** MD, the Stavros Niarchos Professor in Pediatric Cardiology at Weill Cornell Medicine, has been awarded the 2024 Paget-Ewing Award by the Metastasis Research Society for his contributions to the understanding of cancer metastasis.

OBITUARIES

Survivors and friends of the deceased can help by completing the obituary form found at brownalumnimagazine.com or by sending information to Obituaries, *Brown Alumni Magazine*, Box 1854, Providence, R.I. 02912 or by email to alumni_magazine@brown.edu. To contact the editors, call (401) 863-2873.

40s **W. Edgar Jessup Jr.** '44, of Palm Springs, Calif.; Jan. 3, at the age of 101. He was a successful attorney in a Beverly Hills law firm. As a young man, he joined the Navy and accompanied President Roosevelt to the Yalta conference. After graduating law school with honors at USC, he became a founding partner of Ervin, Cohen & Jessup. He retired in 2018. In his free time, he was an avid sailboat racer, and he took pride in introducing his sons to the sport under the flag of the California Yacht Club. He is survived by two sons, four grandchildren, a brother, and a number of nieces and nephews.

Elizabeth Pretzer Rail '44, of Centennial, Colo.; Jan. 27, at the age of 101. After receiving a master's in science from Columbia, she was offered a position with the Illinois Geological Survey and taught geology at the University of Illinois. She married and started a family while working towards her PhD at the University of Illinois. Her husband's job took them to Texas in 1951 and to Calgary, Alberta, in 1967, but she managed to do geological teaching and consulting while raising four children. She published in the *American Association of Petroleum Geologists Bulletin*, and after her children were grown, she returned to teaching geology at a junior college and working in the petroleum industry. In 1975, they were transferred to Houston and she worked full-time in the geology industry and was active at the Unitarian Church. They retired to Colorado in 1983 and enjoyed an active lifestyle. She was instrumental in starting a science day camp at Dinosaur Ridge and continued as a docent well into her 90s. She was a board member and president (1997-1999) of the Friends of Dinosaur Ridge. She moved to Holly Creek retirement community in 2013 and enjoyed the outdoors. She was diagnosed with Parkinson's in her 80s. She is survived by four children, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Charles A. Sleicher Jr. '46, of Seattle; Jan.

23. He was professor emeritus of chemical engineering, University of Washington, and a cofounder of Washington's winery Associated Vintners. He entered the NROTC program at Brown and underwent submarine training with the U.S. Navy. He obtained a master's in chemical engineering from M.I.T. in 1950 and a PhD from the University of Michigan in 1955. After marrying and moving to California, he worked for Shell Oil (1955-1959) and started a family. He studied fluid mechanics at the University of Cambridge (UK) for a year and in 1960 joined the chemical engineering department at the University of Washington, where he served as chair from 1980 until retiring in 1991. He was active in a play readers group and monthly wine-tasting. He had varied interests from designing and building a log cabin, to teaching himself how to play the banjo. He enjoyed reading and traveling and became an award-winning photographer, leading photo safaris to Tanzania into his 90s. He is survived by daughter **Gretchen Sleicher** '79; a son and daughter-in-law; three grandchildren; and brother **Harry** '48.

Irene Margolis Backalenick '47, of Westport, Conn.; Dec. 16. After graduation, she moved to New York City and worked as an editor and writer for various publishers and magazines. In 1947, she married, moved to Boston, and started a family. After several years her husband accepted a position in New York and they moved to Westport. In Westport she wrote for the local newspaper, the *Westport Town Crier*, covering the Circuit Court, and eventually expanded her writing to include features and articles for the *Bridgeport Post*, the *Westport News* and the *New York Times*. She was awarded a prestigious publisher's award from the *New York Times* for outstanding feature writing. While raising four children, she returned to college and earned a master's degree in education from the University of Bridgeport. In her 60s, she went on to get a PhD in theater history from the City College of New York and became a

full-time theater critic writing reviews for Connecticut papers, *TheaterWeek*, and *Backstage* magazine. In 1990, she was one of the founders of the Connecticut Critics Circle. She was also a member of the Outer Critics Circle. After a distinguished 30-year career as a critic, she retired in the early 2000s and became a published poet and playwright. Throughout her life she continued to learn. She enrolled one summer at Oxford University to study theater. She studied Spanish and traveled to Mexico. She was interested in art and cultures and enjoyed traveling to England, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Israel, Russia, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the Caribbean, Egypt, and France. She was active in the League of Women Voters and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She is survived by three children, including son **Paul** '72, and three grandchildren.

Richard B. Edgar '47, of Redmond, Wash.; Jan. 11. He retired from Aerospace after 30 years and from the Navy Reserves after 39 years of service. He is survived by two sons, including **Tom** '87; five grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Benjamin Gitlow '47, of Bethesda; Dec. 6. He worked at United Technologies Corp., United Rubber, Sikorsky Aircraft, and Combustion Engineering before retiring in 1981. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He enjoyed woodworking, reading, tennis, and playing the piano. He is survived by his wife, Joan; a daughter; and two granddaughters.

Anna Templeton-Cotill '47, of Middletown, R.I.; Nov. 28. She was involved in the World Federalist Movement in the late 1940s, working in Paris. She returned to the U.S. in 1998. A lifelong sailor, she was secretary to the International Tempest Class Association and traveled to regattas worldwide. She is survived by two sons and their spouses, six grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

Alan S. Flink '49, of Providence, R.I.; Jan. 4. He received his Juris Doctor from Boston University School of Law, where he was a member of the Law Review. He was admitted to both the Rhode Island and Massachusetts bar associations and began his legal career with Letts Quinn & Licht, and later became a partner and legal ethicist with the law firm of Edwards & Angell. He was a director of Common Cause of Rhode Island beginning in 1999 and the 2021 recipient of Common Cause's John Gardner Fellow. He was active in community activities, including the Jewish Federation of Rhode Island, United Way, and Rhode Island Supreme Court Ethics Reform Commission, a former director of both Planned Parenthood of Rhode Island and Justice Assistance, and former president of John Hope Settlement House. He also served as president of the Rhode Island Bar Association (1991-1992) was a commissioner

on the Rhode Island Judicial Nominating Commission (1995-1999) and editor-in-chief of the *Rhode Island Bar Journal* (1971-1973). He frequently expressed views in letters to the editor and op-ed pieces published by the *Providence Journal*. He was a World War II Navy veteran. He is survived by three sons, two daughters-in-law, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Wendell G. Harris '49, of Cumberland, R.I.; Jan. 1. During World War II, he was enrolled in the Navy V-5 flight training program. After graduating from Brown, he was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves and served as a 1st Lt. during the Korean War. He was active with the Boy Scouts of America in Providence and for a number of years was on the staff at the Yawgoog Scout Reservation in Rockville, R.I. He had achieved the honor of Eagle Scout in August 1943 and received the Daughters of the American Revolution Medal. While at Yawgoog, he learned to sail, and it became a lifelong passion with adventures that included years sailing on Lake Winnepesaukee and as a longtime member of Sail Newport. In 1970, he and his wife, Gail, founded Creative Rewards, a promotional, recognition, and awards company. He was a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon. He is survived by his wife, Gail; three daughters; two granddaughters; and three great-grandsons.

50s **Tien Chi Chen** '50, of San Jose, Calif.; Oct. 6. In 1956 he joined IBM and played a pivotal role in the development of supercomputers and computer architecture, which led him to earn multiple outstanding contribution awards. In 1979, he became a visiting professor at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) in the department of electronics. He assumed the additional position of Head of United College in 1980 and retired for the first time in 1992. He returned to CUHK in 1997 and continued to teach until his second retirement in 2014. CUHK bestowed on him the title of Honorary Fellow of the University in 2003 and he was also a Life Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering. An avid lover of Chinese food and wine, he and his wife coauthored *Everything You Want to Know About Chinese Cooking*. He is survived by his wife, Pearl Kong Chen; a daughter and son-in-law; two grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

William A. Pollard '50, of Essex, Conn., formerly of Providence, R.I.; Dec. 22, his 96th birthday. He began his career in the insurance industry. He worked at the Reliance Insurance Companies for 25 years, where he became chairman and CEO. He was a past director of the Provident Mutual Life Insur-

ance Company and the Philadelphia Savings Fund Society, emeritus Brown Corporation member, trustee of the Princeton Theological Seminary, and president of the National Recreation Foundation. At age 54 he retired and became more involved with Brown, serving terms on the President's Council on Athletics and on the board of directors of the Brown University Sports Foundation, and he was an active member of the Brown Football Association. For decades he attended Brown football games in his raccoon coat, cheering. He was particularly proud to help direct funds towards outdoor athletic school facilities for youth programs in Providence. He enjoyed summers gardening, playing golf, and sailing on the Chesapeake and winters in Colorado, where he skied into his eighties. He traveled the world and consistently read about business and global issues in the *New York Times* and *Wall Street Journal*. He was a member of numerous clubs. He is survived by four daughters, including **Wendy Bodell** '81, **Judith Danforth** '77 and her husband **Murray Danforth III** '77, and **Edith Tower** '85 and her husband **Caleb Tower** '85; eight grandchildren, including **Merebea Danforth** '06, **Ben Kurtz** '08, **William Kurtz** '08, and **Julia Metzger** '13; and eight great-grandchildren.

Thomas D. Fenley '51, of Perkasee, Pa.; Dec. 4. He enlisted in the Navy and served during World War II. Following the war, he matriculated at Brown and learned that in addition to building race cars, he enjoyed racing them, and a racing career began. After graduation, he moved to Augusta and worked at DuPont building the Savannah River nuclear site, while continuing to race, including at Daytona. He transferred to the New Jersey DuPont facility and continued to race in New England. He left DuPont to join a start-up, then followed that job with a position at Moore Products Company (Pa.) as a research and design engineer. He stopped racing and began farming. In 1966, he moved to Perkasee, left Moore Products, raised cattle, and became an entrepreneur. In retire-

ment he sailed the Delaware and Chesapeake Bays and developed and patented a unique way to control motors and generators. He also enjoyed traveling the country with his wife. He is survived by his wife, Anne; six children and their spouses; and 13 grandchildren.

John R. Hooton '51, of Punta Gorda, Fla., formerly of Pa.; Oct. 21. After serving in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War, he began working in the insurance industry. Later, he became a certified financial planner for Hefren-Tillotson. He was a volunteer with Montour Trail Council, where he was instrumental in transforming abandoned railroads into bike trails. He enjoyed being a leader for Boy Scout bike trips, reading, attending jazz concerts, and playing tennis. He is survived by three children, four grandchildren, and a sister.

Marie McCarthy Sexton '51, of Williamsburg, Va.; Nov. 4. She is survived by three sons and two grandchildren.

Elizabeth Brownlee Sherk '51, of Prairie Village, Kans.; Dec. 17, of cancer. After moving to Kansas in 1963 with her family, she attended the Kansas City Art Institute and studied ceramics. She showed her creations in the Plaza Art Fair for 13 years. She also knitted, sewed, and did needlepoint. She enjoyed cooking and baking and while her children were young would make fresh bread daily. She volunteered at Children's Mercy Hospital for many years. She is survived by her husband John; three children and their spouses; three grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

Roger H. Cloutman '52, of Springfield, Mass.; Dec. 16. He worked for Monsanto Chemical Company in Springfield. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and he enjoyed playing bridge. He is survived by three children, a granddaughter, a sister, nieces, and nephews.

Jean Carmody Theve '53, of Block Island, formerly of Barrington, R.I.; Jan. 12. She worked as a long term substitute English teacher and later as a real estate agent. She enjoyed spending time at the beach, reading, and traveling. She is survived by two daugh-

Roy E. Gainsburg '54, of Rochester, N.Y.; Dec. 9. He earned a law degree from Harvard Law School, then worked for 30 years at the Wall Street law firm Szold & Brandwen, ultimately becoming a senior partner specializing in publishing and literary law. He represented the publishing company St. Martin's Press, Macmillan Ltd., and the estate of J.R.R. Tolkien, as well as numerous labor-union interests. In 1987, he was named president of St. Martin's Press, where he worked until 2009, serving as an administrative vice president in his final decade at the company. He also served on the board of directors for The Partnership to End Homelessness in New York City from 1997 to 2006, cochairing the board from 2001 to 2004. He was a baseball fan and enjoyed reading, especially historical biographies, and listening to classical music. He was dedicated to Brown and was a lifelong donor. In 1996, he established the Gainsburg Family Scholarship, which provides tuition for a new Brown undergraduate every four years. He also established an arrangement for the Brown University Library to become the official archive for St. Martin's Press. He is survived by daughters **Julie Gainsburg** '82 and **Jeannie Gainsburg** '85; two grandchildren; and a sister.



FAREWELL

Father of Sperm Banking

Jerome K. Sherman '47 developed the technique that helped make the artificial insemination industry boom decades later.

In 1953, Jerome K. Sherman '47 was getting his PhD in zoology at the University of Iowa when the university's \$2,700 Cryovac machine, for freezing living tissue for research purposes, broke. Sherman, then 27, told his department head he could build a new one for only \$500.

And he did. But that's not all. At the time, the only way to artificially inseminate a woman was to transfer the semen to her as soon as possible after it was ejaculated, because semen

died within hours. The idea of freezing sperm had existed since the mid-19th century, but no one had gotten it to work in humans. Young Sherman, mulling on how to overcome that logistical barrier, concentrated sperm from his own semen via a centrifuge, added glycerol to protect the sperm, a 1959 innovation, then added his own tweak, which was to cool it more slowly. It worked: Three women became pregnant using it.

His thought, at the time was "Maybe...you could...have semen available for marriage in case something happens to the male," he told the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* in 2013.

Even though the process would not catch on widely until the 1970s, Sherman's aha moment has since allowed countless couples worldwide to start a family. The breakthrough was "a matter of personal pride but, more importantly...appreciation for the

opportunities I had to be able to do something like that in my lifetime," he told the podcast *Biohacked* just a few years ago.

His discovery led to the opening, shortly after, of the very first sperm bank, at the University of Iowa, then, a few years later, another at the University of Arkansas Medical School (UAMS), where Sherman ended up teaching for 35 years and raising a family in Little Rock with his wife, the German-born Hildegard.

Sherman came to be known as one of the principal creators of the modern global assisted baby-making industry. "He was the first to figure out a way to freeze the sperm and to retain its reproductive ability," a colleague said of him in the 2013 *Democrat-Gazette* story.

That's why decades of his students at UAMS affectionately called him Spermin' Sherman. He died December 1, 2023, at age 98, having outlived his wife and most of his colleagues. According to his son, Marc—one of his three surviving children—he was perfectly healthy until only shortly before his death: "We were aiming for him to reach 100, but I told him it was okay to go."

Sherman was born working-class in Brooklyn in 1925, finished high school at 16 and then dropped out of Brooklyn College to join the Navy once the U.S. entered WWII. After serving as an anti-submarine warfare officer in the Pacific—and witnessing firsthand the devastating aftermath of the U.S. atomic bomb's drop in Nagasaki, which he once called "the most significant experience of my life"—he graduated with a biology degree in 1947 from Brown, where he had gone to officers school.

He then earned a master's degree at Case Western Reserve before landing at the University of Iowa, where he made his breakthrough. After he did so, he consulted faith leaders to discuss its moral implications. He said that a Protestant minister and a rabbi had no issue

with it, but Catholic priests vehemently opposed it, seeing it as interfering with God's work. Once news of the development broke out, creating public shock waves, people wrote to the Iowa governor to complain that it was being done at the state university. One Iowa state lawmaker called the process Sherman had invented "a pagan device."

But the proliferation of the approach ultimately prevailed, with Sherman receiving lucrative job offers from several elite universities, including Harvard. Instead, he and Hildegard chose UAMS because they liked the mild weather, natural beauty, and abundance of places to take their kids fishing—a lifelong passion of his.

In 1964, he was one of the founders of the Society for Cryobiology. He also played a role in founding the American Association of Tissue Banks, helping to write their regulations for the processing and management of frozen sperm inventories. In 1991, he wrote the first guidelines for the cryobanking of human embryos for the association. He also spent decades consulting with countless animal and human sperm banks.

As a professor, he is remembered by former students as approachable, supportive, and funny, even a bit goofy. "He once told a story about having a mouse in his pocket and taking it into a bar and giving it a drink, and as he told the story, his speech became slurred like he was becoming inebriated," remembers Jennifer Dilla-ha, director of the Arkansas Department of Health, who studied under Sherman in the early 1990s.

According to Marc, Sherman's son, his father's invention was later used by other doctors to freeze human organs for breakthrough medicine. "He did a lot of talks worldwide, most having to do with cryobanking. In Munich, they called him the pope of cryobanking."

Marc remembers his father showing him, as a child, an electron microscope, the first

in Arkansas. "I could see the sperm he was working on," he recalls. It became a family tradition: "My niece said they looked like tadpoles."

But, says Marc, his father was prouder of the fact that, in his years at UAMS, he taught roughly 5,000 students than he was of his big discovery. Additionally, his strong feelings about making the UAMS student body more reflective, racially, of Arkansas's actual population led to the establishment of an Office of Minority Affairs with the school.

"He was a great role model, very caring and giving," says Marc. "At our synagogue, he created a committee to welcome new people to town." It was an unsurprising gesture for a man who, while at the University of Iowa, would organize bus trips for male students to get haircuts in Cedar Rapids—to protest the refusal of the barber near campus to cut Black students' hair.

He visited hospitalized cancer patients from abroad receiving treatment at the Myeloma Institute for Research and Therapy in Little Rock, helping patients and their families feel more comfortable during their stay by speaking to them in their native language (he spoke French, German, and Spanish).

And his work with the Boy Scouts led to the creation of a camp held at UAMS for minority, special needs, and financially disadvantaged young people who were interested in medical careers that became a model for future programs administered by the Office of Minority Affairs. "I want to be remembered as a contributor to human welfare," he told the *Democrat-Gazette* in 2013. He more than succeeded.

Sherman is survived by a daughter, two sons, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. (Hildegard died in 2015.) —TIM MURPHY '91

Tim Murphy '91 is author of the novels Christodora, Correspondents, and most recently, Speech Team.

ters and sons-in-law, five grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Howard M. Weiss '53, of Boca Raton, Fla.; Jan. 24. He received his medical degree and residency training in obstetrics and gynecology from Downstate Medical Center. He had a private practice for 25 years before retiring to Florida in the mid 1980s. He enjoyed playing bridge, tennis, and golf. He also enjoyed reading and classical music and was a fan of the New York Giants. He is survived by his wife, Marlene; daughters **Heidi DeChatellus** '82 and **Patricia Jacobs** '83; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Emanuel Gerard '54, of New York City; Nov. 5, from cancer. After graduating from Harvard Business School, he was an independent consultant for many companies, including Warner Communications, Atari, and Gerard Klauer Mattison. He was a consistent contributor to Brown and enjoyed being an occasional guest lecturer in Prof. Hazeltine's Engin 9 class helping to advise young people. He also enjoyed music. He is survived by his wife, Skippy; four children and their spouses, including daughter **Nikki Nesci** '93 and her husband **Justin Nesci** '91; and 10 grandchildren.

Emilio D. Iannuccillo Jr. '54, of Bristol, R.I.; Dec. 2. He was a lawyer who practiced for more than 60 years in Rhode Island. He served as Bristol probate judge and Bristol town solicitor. He was an original drafting member of the Rhode Island Bar Association Real Estate Standards Committee. He enjoyed camping, gardening, politics, and operating a ham radio. He is survived by his wife, Vicki; two daughters; a granddaughter; and stepchildren and step-grandchildren.

Chester A. Kisiel '54, of Warsaw, Poland; Oct. 6. He taught at Staten Island College (CUNY) and at international schools, and has written, collaborated, and translated books in sociology, economics, philosophy, Jewish studies, religion, and art. He is survived by his wife, Krystyna; and a son.

Judith Jackson Carroll '55, of St. Albans, Vt.; Dec. 3. She was a registered nurse. During her time at Brown, she was a member of the Chattercocks. She was also a member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in St. Albans and enjoyed singing in its choir. She sailed, skied, ice skated, and enjoyed reading and baking. She is survived by five children, 13 grandchildren, a great-granddaughter, and several nieces and nephews.

Daniel Chu '55, of Red Hook, N.Y.; Nov. 28, after a long illness. He was an associate editor and writer for *People*, *Newsweek*, and *Time* before retiring in 1991. He was a U.S. Army veteran who enjoyed reading and sailing. He is survived by two nieces and a nephew.

Charles J. Deignan '55, of Falmouth,

OBITUARIES

Mass., formerly of New Jersey; Dec. 1. After one year attending Brown, he joined the U.S. Marine Corp. and returned to Brown to complete his degree. He worked in New York City as a sales rep for Liberty Mutual before having a long career in the health and beauty aids industry, where he worked as the assistant national sales manager of Clairol, Inc.; national sales manager of Gillette; and vice president of sales and marketing at Hudson Pharmaceuticals Inc. He retired in 2000 as senior vice president of sales of I.V.C. Industries, Inc., and moved to Falmouth. In retirement he continued to do consulting for various start-up companies until fully retiring in 2014. With a quick wit and dry sense of humor, he started the Marine Corps Birthday Celebration at the Quarterdeck restaurant in Falmouth telling jokes and roasting members, an event that continued for 14 years. He enjoyed hosting annual clam bakes, shuffleboard tournaments, and BBQs for family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Anna; two daughters and sons-in-law; a son and daughter-in-law; and nine grandchildren.

G. Raymond Fox '55, of Pensacola, Fla.; Nov. 16. He had a distinguished 30-year career in the U.S. Navy, where he served as a flight instructor, test pilot, and maintenance officer with assignments in Egypt and Israel. He served in Vietnam and was later named Commanding Officer of the Naval Air Rework Facility in Pensacola. He retired in 1986 with the rank of captain and two Distinguished Flying Crosses. He began a second career doing consulting work that supported the Federal Aviation Administration and retired for a second time in 2011 as COO of Subsystem Technologies. He volunteered at both the National Naval Aviation Museum and the T.T. Wentworth Jr. Florida State Museum and was a member of the Rotary Club. He enjoyed reading, skiing, building model ships, and playing tennis and golf. He is survived by four children, four grandchildren, and a nephew.

Robert C. Sullivan '55, of Chappaqua, N.Y.; Dec. 21. After service in the Army, he earned a law degree from George Washington University Law School and had a career as a patent attorney at Union Carbide and Stauffer Chemical Company. He later earned an MBA from Pace University School of Business and served the remainder of his career as vice president and Global Chief Intellectual Property Counsel at Colgate-Palmolive Company. He volunteered as a Community Emergency Response Team member, was a member of the New Castle Board of Assessment Review and the Rotary Club of Chappaqua, and was a parishioner of the Church of St. John and St. Mary for more than 60 years. His many hobbies and interests included coin collecting,

wine tasting, book binding, darkroom photography, auto repair, furniture making, gardening, and hiking. He also enjoyed spending time with family and friends at his beach cottage in Charlestown, R.I. He is survived by his wife, **Leanora Torres Sullivan** '53; three children and their spouses, including son **Robert** '82 and daughter-in-law **Christina Kan Sullivan** '84; and eight grandchildren, including **Michelle Sullivan** '15.

Denny N. Bearce '56, of Birmingham, Ala.; Jan. 1. After graduation he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and upon discharge, returned to school for a master's degree in geology at the former Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy. He worked at Mobil Oil Corp. for a few years before returning to school to earn a PhD at the University of Tennessee. He then taught at Eastern Kentucky University for a year before moving to Birmingham to teach geology at Birmingham Southern College for seven years. He was offered the opportunity to start the geology department at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, from which he retired in 1997 after 25 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, woodworking, and volunteer work with church groups, including Community Ministries at Highlands Methodist Church, Habitat for Humanity, and Carpenters Hands Ministries. He traveled for mission work to Paraguay, where he installed community water wells and traveled with the youth of Highland Methodist Church for the Appalachian Service Project each summer for seven years. He is survived by his wife, Judith; a son; and three grandchildren.

Herman Freese '56, of Sarasota, Fla., formerly of Boston; Nov. 25. He was a district manager for New England Telephone in Boston. He enjoyed going to Fenway Park with his family, playing poker with his friends, and cruising with his daughters before retiring to Florida. He is survived by two daughters, a sister and brother-in-law, a niece, and three nephews.

Richard B. Nashel '56, of Ridgewood, N.J.; Dec. 22. After Brown he graduated from Columbia Law School and NYU. He worked for the IRS in New York City, at the Newark law firm of Pitney, Hardin Kipp & Szuch for several years, and then joined his father's law firm Nashel & Nashel. He practiced until his passing. He enjoyed music and considered himself an audiophile and wine connoisseur. He also enjoyed watching sports, especially college football and the New York Yankees. He had been a member of Brown's men's baseball team. He also bird hunted in Montana, was an avid gardener, and enjoyed fly-fishing. He is survived by his wife, Susan; three children; six grandchildren; and brother **David** '60.

George A. Otto '56, of Park Ridge, N.J.; Jan. 2. He was a member of the ROTC at Brown and upon graduation served in the U.S. Air Force, attaining the rank of lieutenant. He was bilingual in English and Spanish and worked at the Insurance Office of America in New York and Lima, Peru, for many years. The last 20 years of his career he worked as a sales executive and regional manager at *Mineria Pan Americana* and *Construcción Pan-Americana*, Latin America's leading construction and mining publications. He was an avid beekeeper and took pleasure in sharing his honey with others. He enjoyed spending time outdoors, reading, sailing, and traveling. He is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, a son and daughter-in-law, five grandchildren, a sister and brother-in-law, and two nieces.

Edward V. Randall Jr. '56, of Pittsburgh; Jan. 27. He was the president and CEO of PNC Bank, Pittsburgh, chairman of the PNC Bank Foundation, director of the Federal Reserve Board of Cleveland/Pittsburgh branch, and a director emeritus and founding chairman of the Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development. He was a U.S. Marine Corp veteran of the Korean War. He is survived by his wife, **Sally Shaw Randall** '56; three children and their spouses; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Lewis A. Schaffer '56, of Delray Beach, Fla., formerly of Ridgefield, Conn., and Armonk, N.Y.; Jan. 19. He was a retired pediatrician. For 37 years he practiced in Armonk. He was an avid cyclist and enjoyed reading. He is survived by his wife, Deborah; two sons, including **Michael** '83; and six grandchildren.

Stephen J. Aronoff '57, of White Plains, N.Y.; Dec. 21. After graduating, he joined the family business, Lady Lynne Lingerie, and remained there throughout his career. He wrote poetry and was a member of the Poetry Caravan for several years. He played tennis, appreciated good films, enjoyed jazz and opera music, and especially enjoyed spending time with family. He is survived by his wife, Anita; three children; 12 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Shirley Delyne Forsell '57, of Savannah, Ga., formerly of McLean, Va.; Mar. 3, 2023. She was a retired school teacher. She is survived by her husband, Robert; three children and their spouses; four grandchildren; and a sister.

Richard A. Ionata '57, of Vancouver, Wash.; Sept. 13. He is survived by his wife, Mary.

William R. Rivelli '57, of New York City; Jan. 16, from Covid and kidney disease. He had a passion for photography since he was 12 and after graduating from Brown honed

his skills as an assistant to *Life Magazine* photographer Nina Leen. After his training with Nina Leen, he assisted several prominent photographers before opening his own studio in 1963 with a focus on corporate and industrial photography. His assignments took him around the world. He was an active board member of the American Society of Media Photographers, lectured to chapters around the country, and created a correspondence template to improve the business relationships between clients and independent photographers. During his 50-year photography career, he pursued projects that included images documenting the five-year renovation of the United Nations building and a commissioned portfolio of black and white art prints depicting the resilience of Citibank employees post 9/11. He is survived by his wife, Cynthia; a daughter and son-in-law; a son and daughter-in-law; and three grandchildren.

Ann Kimball Heinrichs '58, of Middletown, N.Y.; Nov. 14. After graduating, she went on an eight-month tour of Europe. Once stateside, she became a software engineer and worked for American Airlines, Sikorsky Aircraft, and finally IBM. She volunteered with her local church and sang in the choir. She enjoyed visiting the New York Botanical Gardens and had a love for cats. She was a proud 40-year member of AA. She is survived by her stepdaughter and husband and two grandchildren.

James K. McCormick '59, of Aiken, S.C., formerly of Nashua, N.H.; Oct. 29. He was a developmental representative for Hamamatsu Photonics of Japan, working with the leading physics laboratories in the U.S. and often designing specialized products for them. He contributed to the community and global projects of Rotary International and was a member of Unitarian Universalist Church. He was the founder and chair of the Nashua Chapter of The Boys & Girls Club of America. In addition to climbing all 48 of the 4,000 Footers of New Hampshire, he was a guide for the Appalachian Mountain Club. He enjoyed spending time with his wife on Lake Winnepesaukee, sailing, and hiking. He is survived by his daughter, a grandson, and a brother and sister-in-law.

Wayne A. Perkins '59, of Milton, Mass.; Dec. 1. He was an ob-gyn in Norwood, Mass., for more than 30 years and former president of Norwood Hospital medical staff. During his career he volunteered in Haiti and created a cervical cancer screening program. He was a longtime member of the Oyster Harbors Club and enjoyed reading, classical music, and playing tennis and golf. He is survived by four children, nine grandchildren, and two sisters.

60s Richard A. Young '60, of Greenwich, Conn.; Nov. 27. He graduated from the University of Virginia Law School and became the managing partner at Martin Clearwater & Bell. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and he enjoyed photography, tennis, and cars. He is survived by his wife, Carol; four children; and eight grandchildren.

John N. Flint '62, of Highland Park, N.J., formerly of Evanston, Ill.; Nov. 24, from lung cancer. After graduating from Brown, he married, started a family, and moved to Evanston to attend Northwestern for his master's in sociology and a minor in military history. He was a vocal anti-war advocate during the Vietnam War and led teach-ins. After graduation, he remained in Evanston working as an engineering liaison at Signode stainless steel piping company, then as a marketing manager. In 1976, after separating from his wife, he relocated to Chicago, where he refurbished rooms for the Art Institute and found work building architectural models for major Chicago firms. He moved to New Jersey in 1983, married again, and eventually built his own small business doing home renovation and designing kitchen remodels. Throughout his life he enjoyed playing hockey, tennis, baseball, volleyball, basketball, handball, fencing, racquetball and, later on, pickleball. He had many hobbies, including drawing, woodworking, photography, travel, cooking, listening to classical music, and solving the New York Times crossword puzzle. He designed, built, and refinished furniture and collected art and antiques. He is survived by his wife, Lynne; three children; five grandchildren, a great-grandson; and a sister.

Robert Falb '64, of Arlington, Va.; Jul. 29, 2023. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; two daughters, including Deborah Falb '87; 10 grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; and a sister.

William K. Engeman '61, of Lancaster, Ohio; Dec. 21. He started his lifelong love of rowing under the legendary coach Charlie Butt Sr. during high school and was the stroke of the Cinderella Crew at Brown, which led to the creation of Brown's varsity crew and his later induction into Brown's Athletic Hall of Fame. He graduated from University of Virginia's School of Law and had a distinguished legal career with the Cincinnati law firm of Taft, Stettinius & Hollister in the labor and employment department. He retired in 2001. With an unending love of rowing, he was instrumental in the founding of high school and college rowing programs, including the University of Cincinnati rowing team he cofounded in 1981; the creation of the Cincinnati Regatta that was later called the Collegiate National Rowing Championships, held at Harsha Lake from 1982 to 1996; the construction of the world class racing center at East Fork State Park and the indoor training facility at Sawyer Point; and the development of many boat houses. In retirement, he and his wife traveled extensively and most often to international rowing regattas. He mentored and coached athletes and sponsored a young team of rowers from Iraq who came to train in the U.S. and became lifelong friends. In 2010 he was recognized as U.S. Rowing Man of the Year. He is survived by his wife, Nancy; a daughter and son-in-law; two sons and daughters-in-law; grandchildren; great-grandchildren; and a sister and brother-in-law.

Livia Votolato Giroux '64, of Rye, N.H., formerly of Warwick, R.I.; Nov. 23. She was an educator and administrator in the West Warwick school system for most of her professional career. She is survived by two sisters, including Adela B. Carter '69; a brother-in-law; and many nieces and nephews, including **Stephen D. Carter** '00 and **Emily Livia Carter** '04.

Gerald G. Naylor '64, of Ann Arbor, Mich.; Nov. 3, of lung cancer. After Brown he went to dental school at Georgetown University. He joined the public health service during the Vietnam War, serving merchant marines in both Cincinnati and Staten Island. He then completed his dental training in periodontics at the University of Michigan. Upon graduating, he opened a dental practice in Ann Arbor, serving the community for 40 years until he retired in 2011. He was well read and particularly enjoyed reading about American history and the Civil War and discussing politics and economics. He was also passionate about gardening and spent time researching plants for his extensive garden that included a variety of orchid species. He enjoyed hosting garden parties with his friends. He was president of the Ann Arbor Dean Fund Committee, where he oversaw the selection and plantings of trees throughout Ann Arbor. He was an avid supporter of the arts and a member of the University Musical Society. He was also an activist for LGBTQ and feminist rights in the 1970s and 1980s. He is survived by his partner, William Garvey; a sister and brother-in-law; a brother and sister-in-law; and five nieces and nephews.

Clifton V. Rice '64, of South Dartmouth, Mass.; Dec. 20, from complications of Alzheimer's. After graduation, he went on a motorcycle tour of Europe. Upon his return to the U.S., he married and began working in advertising in New York City. He then joined the U.S. Army, completed training,

OBITUARIES

and was commissioned as an Infantry officer and, after additional training as an Information Officer, was posted to Seoul, Korea. Returning to the U.S. he enrolled at Boston University Graduate School of Communications and while there worked at the campus radio station, WBUR, developing news programming. After graduating from BU he and his wife lived in Cambridge and then settled in Lincoln, Mass., where he took a job at Houghton Mifflin Company in their New Media Department. He was promoted to head of the department and then made a vice president in charge of developing software products. He left Houghton Mifflin in 1985 and went to work for Cullinet Software Company, producing informational and educational videos for software customers. In 1990 he was recruited by Fidelity Investments to create an independent media company within Fidelity. Fidelity Images was created and grew under his management. He retired from Fidelity in 2007 and moved to South Dartmouth, where he volunteered at the New Bedford Whaling Museum providing tours. He also became involved with the Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust and served as president from 2011 to 2017. He helped both organizations improve their public communications. He enjoyed hiking, biking, sailing, and singing in Sharing a New Song choir group and the New Bedford Choral Society. He is survived by his wife, **Margaret-Ann "Mickie" Parker Rice '64**; a daughter; a son and daughter-in-law; four grandchildren; a sister and brother-in-law; a sister-in-law; and two brothers.

Peter A. Willens '64, of Indian Wells, Calif.; Oct. 22. After Brown he attended SUNY Upstate Medical University. He completed a rotating surgical internship at USC Medical Center and had partially completed a surgical residency at Montefiore Medical Center (N.Y.) when he suffered a severe injury to his right shoulder while skiing in Europe. His right arm was initially completely paralyzed, but he was able to regain some function and strength of the arm after one year. However, he had to give up his aspirations of becoming a surgeon and switched to diagnostic radiology, completing a three-year residency at Montefiore Medical Center. He became an expert in the burgeoning field of interventional radiology and practiced medicine in Southern California for nearly 50 years. He enjoyed reading, traveling the world, and spending time with his grandchildren. He is survived by his wife, Vita; three children; and five grandchildren.

William M. Jackson '65, of Cataumet, Mass.; Oct. 27. He went on to earn a PhD in physical chemistry from UMass Amherst and a successful career in biotechnology

followed. He became the founding CEO of Repligen Corp. In retirement, and interested in promoting business development, he was involved with Regional Technology Development Corporation of Cape Cod. He enjoyed retirement on Cape Cod in the home he built, sailing Buzzard's Bay, woodworking, and serving as an active member of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Falmouth. He is survived by his wife, **Jane Benedict Jackson '66**; a son, a son-in-law; and four grandchildren.

Terence P. Lukens '65, of Bellevue, Wash.; Jan. 1, of brain cancer. He had a career as a lawyer, a public official, and a mediator. During the time between his two academic institutions, he served four years as an Air Force procurement officer. After graduating from Rutgers Law School, he and his family headed to Seattle, where he worked at the law firm of Kar Tuttle Campbell. He went on to work with the Bellevue Planning Commission, followed by the City Council, and finally to the office of the Bellevue Mayor. In 1999, he was appointed to King County Superior Court. Known for his intellect, wit, and dedication to public service, he attempted a run for the State Supreme Court in 2004, but returned to 12 years as a private mediator before retiring. In his retirement, he enjoyed spending time with his family, volunteering in the community, reading, cheering for the Mariners, and playing golf. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, **Ann Pierson Lukens '68**; three children; four grandchildren; and a brother and sister-in-law.

David W. Sanderson '65, of Waterford, Me., formerly of Newburyport, Mass.; Nov. 10, as a result of a logging accident. In Newburyport he was engaged in the management of the New England Trail Riders Association but his career also included work in the world of marketing, cofounding an early software start-up, and as an Oracle database developer. He retired in the early 2000s to Waterford. He was a musician and played the banjo, fiddle, and guitar. He was a self-taught welder, carpenter, mechanic, and stonemason who enjoyed working on the house his ancestors built in the 1860s. He also enjoyed historical research related to the Waterford and surrounding areas and published in journals, newspapers, and magazines. He is survived by a son and daughter-in-law; a granddaughter; a brother and sister-in-law; a niece; and a nephews.

Michael Spencer Bassis '66, of Springfield, Va.; Jan. 9. He had a long and successful career in higher education that encompassed roles as professor, dean, and ultimately retiring as president of Westminster College in 2012. During the course of his career, he spent time helping small liberal arts colleges and universities redefine themselves. He enjoyed

many passions throughout his lifetime, including baseball, sailing, art, travel, and being a member of Brown's lacrosse team. He enjoyed collecting art and in retirement, began painting and creating works of his own. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Mary; four children, including **Christina Bassis '96**; eight grandchildren; and two sisters.

Robert J. Kudless '66, of Califon, N.J.; Jan. 6, from chronic myeloid leukemia. He was a retired special education teacher. After Brown he served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. In 1978, he married and settled in New Jersey. He enjoyed solving the *New York Times* crossword puzzle, traveling, and spending time with his family. He is survived by his wife, Claire; a daughter and her partner; a brother and sister-in-law; and nieces and nephews.

John C. Westfall '66, of Burke, Va.; Feb. 25, 2023, of a stroke. He was a member of the Navy ROTC and also earned an MBA from New Hampshire College. Following his 20 years of military service as a naval flight officer, he and his family settled in Virginia. During his civilian career he was corporate manager and senior analyst at Systems Technology and Research Corporation and cofounded Age Care Systems Inc. His last executive position was at Starbucks. One of his great pleasures in the late '80s and early '90s was his monthly lunch with **John Stabb '66**, **Joe Tarantolo '65**, and **Suzanne Mays Richardson '66**. They never missed a month from 1987 to 1993. He was grateful for the kidney transplant he received at Johns Hopkins Hospital in 2019. He is survived by his wife, Katie; three daughters; and two grandchildren.

Peter C. Rutan '67, of Eatontown, N.J.; Dec. 14, of metastatic prostate cancer. He was a neuropsychologist and cognitive therapist. He maintained a private practice in Red Bank, N.J., for 30 years. Previously, as a school psychologist, he was a member of child study teams in various schools in Monmouth County, N.J. He was a member of the American Psychological Association, National Academy of Neuropsychology, and Reitan Society, where he was a member of the Reitan Knights of the Round Table. He enjoyed sailing along the Atlantic coastline, hiking, mountain climbing, camping, and reading. He is survived by his wife, Barbara; a daughter and son-in-law; a son and daughter-in-law; five grandchildren; a sister and brother-in-law; and several nieces and nephews.

Michael S. A. Boyer '68, of Providence, R.I.; Dec. 28. He was founder and president of Cascade Designs in Providence before retiring. An avid skier, he dedicated 50 years of his life to volunteer service with the National Ski Patrol (NSP) and spent more than 35 years with the Tuesday night crew at Blue

Hills in Canton, Mass. He is credited with saving three lives during his time with NSP. He was a passionate craftsman, prolific creator, and woodworker, and he loved restoring old houses. He enjoyed spending time at the beach, photography, and sailing. He is survived by his wife, Lorraine; four sons and daughters-in-law; and six grandchildren.

Gregory W. DiMartino '68, of North Kingstown, R.I.; Nov. 27. He is survived by two sons, three grandchildren, and a sister.

C. Craig Hedberg '68, of Sun City Center, Fla.; Nov. 21. He began a career in urban planning and transportation systems in Portland, Me., later working in the Washington, D.C., area before founding Integrated Transportation Systems, which he operated for more than 30 years. He chaired traffic studies for the Montgomery County Chamber and the Bethesda Chamber. He enjoyed travel adventures, especially to Scotland, the Netherlands, and Alaska. He is survived by two sisters and two nephews.

Joanne Funger Marden '69, of Montrose, Colo., formerly of Andover, Mass.; Dec. 2. She earned her CPA license and served on the Andover Town Finance Committee for 39 years and was an active leader in the Andover community. She enjoyed boating, especially around the Newburyport and Boston areas. In 2017, she moved to Montrose and was involved in such local groups as Newcomers and Neighbors and the Women's Giving Club. She is survived by two daughters, including **Elysa Marden** '90; two sons-in-law; three grandchildren; a sister; a brother; and nieces and nephews.

70s Susan A. Doucette '70, of Danvers, Mass.; Jan. 19. She is survived by three sisters, a brother-in-law, and three nephews.

Helena "Bubbe" Formal Lehrer '70, of Ventnor City, N.J., formerly of Philadelphia; Dec. 2, after a long battle with Alzheimer's. She spent her professional career educating Jewish children at Akiba Hebrew Academy, now Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy. During her 30-year tenure at JBHA, she filled many roles. She was a substitute teacher, then taught chemistry and biology before becoming an administrator, with positions that included department head, vice principal, and principal. Her passion was connecting with each of the students, their parents, and the extended JBHA community. She is survived by sons **Joshua** '91 and **Michael** '93 and their spouses; three grandchildren; and a brother and sister-in-law.

Martha Schroeder Lewis '70, of Pittsboro, N.C.; Dec. 26, of metastatic colon cancer. She earned a master's in library science at UNC Chapel Hill and a master's and PhD in psychology at Northwestern. Each of her

careers spanned more than 20 years. She worked at the University of South Carolina Law Library and was a clinical psychologist in community mental health centers, at veterans hospitals, and in private practice. She volunteered at animal rescue centers and rescued several cats. She is survived by her husband, Charles; a brother; two sisters-in-law; and nieces and nephews.

Barbara R. Marzetta '70, of Chevy Chase, Md.; Dec. 1, of metastatic breast cancer. She was a policy administrator and deputy director of the Office of Science and Technology at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. She is survived by her mother, two sisters, a brother, and nieces and nephews.

Anthony J. Evangelista '71, of Concord Township, Ohio; Nov. 2, of chronic lymphocytic leukemia. He graduated from Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine and established a veterinary practice, Lake Animal Hospital, in Painesville, Ohio, that he operated for more than 40 years. He dedicated his spare time to fundraising and improving the athletic facilities at Riverside High School. He was an award-winning home brewer and certified beer judge. He enjoyed growing dahlias and creating new varieties through hybridization. He was also an avid birdwatcher, fly-fisherman, and fan of Cleveland sports teams and the Ohio State Buckeyes. He was a member of the Painesville YMCA. He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline; a daughter and son-in-law; a son; two granddaughters; two sisters; and many nieces and nephews.

Jill Cranna Preotle '71, of Boston; Nov. 1, of pancreatic cancer. She obtained a law degree from New York University but turned down a job at a New York City law firm to raise her family. Later, she was a partner at Preotle & Smith. In 1997, she relocated to Boston and taught English as a Second Language at the Boston Public Library. She passed the universal bar exam so that she could perform pro-bono legal services for the underserved in Boston. She spent time investing in early-stage start-ups, with a particular passion for mentoring women entrepreneurs. She was an investor, active advisor, and often a board member with numerous start-ups. She is survived by her husband, John; three children; six grandchildren; her mother; and three siblings.

Henry H. Whitehouse III '71, of Victoria, Tex.; Nov. 4, from cardiac complications due to amyloidosis. He was an ob-gyn at Victoria Women's Clinic for 33 years. He served in several leadership positions in the Victoria medical community and represented the Victoria Goliad Jackson County Medical Society as a regional delegate to the Texas Medical Association for many years. After diagnosis and treatment of an ocular melanoma, he began a second career and became

credentialed as a hospice and palliative care physician. He worked with Hospice of South Texas and was instrumental in the development of Dornberg Center hospice facility in Victoria. He enjoyed biking and in 2018 biked across the country. He is survived by his wife, Susan; a daughter; a son; two sisters and brothers-in-law; and several cousins, nieces, and nephews.

John L. Delany '72, of Inverness, Ill.; Dec. 22, of cancer. He earned a PhD from Yale and remained an avid learner throughout his life. He began his career as a professor at the University of Minnesota before holding positions at Fallon McElligott (Minn.), Bank of New York (Del.), and Sears and Arthur Andersen (Ill.). In 2003, he formed his own strategic consulting firm, Giraffe LLC, but considered his most fulfilling work leading strategic development at the nonprofit organization Marklund, where he spent his last 12 years helping make everyday life possible for individuals with profound disabilities. He is survived by his wife, Terry; a daughter; a son; and three sisters.

Margot Blum Schevill '72, '81 AM, of Berkeley, Calif.; Jan. 17. She was an opera singer in San Francisco during the 1950s and 1960s. In the 1980s, she transitioned to anthropology focused on curating exhibitions. She is survived by children and grandchildren.

Daniel J. Cooper '73, of Chappaqua, N.Y.; Dec. 21. After Brown he graduated from Harvard University and Columbia Law School. He had a distinguished legal career including clerking for Judge Jack Weinstein prior to private practice and finally as a jury consultant. He is survived by his wife, Wendy; two daughters and sons-in-law; four grandchildren; two brothers; and two sisters-in-law.

Leonard W. Erickson '73, of Providence, R.I.; Jan. 10. For more than 40 years, he was a senior mail clerk in Brown's biomedical stockroom. He retired in 2021. During his time at Brown, he was a team organizer and member of the Brown "Bio Hazards" intramural softball team.

Mark J. Candon '74, of Rutland, Vt.; Nov. 28. He worked as a freelance reporter at the *Rutland Herald*, a substitute teacher at Rutland High School, and a two-term state legislator in Montpelier. He was named Legislator of the Year in 1983. With a great interest in local politics, he was a Republican candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives for Vermont in 1998. For the last 28 years, he worked as an investment executive at Moors & Cabot in Rutland. He was a lifelong member of Proctor-Pittsford Country Club. He enjoyed skiing, hunting, and playing golf. He is survived by his wife, Debbie; two daughters; a son; a daughter-in-law; a son-in-law;

OBITUARIES

three grandchildren; four siblings; and many nieces and nephews.

Judith Finkelstein Kashtan '74, of Minneapolis; Nov. 28, as the result of a sudden brain hemorrhage. She was a psychiatrist and advocate for women as leaders in the profession. She served as past president of the Minnesota Psychiatric Society and was a member of the board of trustees of the American Psychiatric Association. She is survived by her husband, Clifford; three children, including **Aaron** '05; her father; three siblings and their spouses; and many nieces and nephews.

Cornelius E. Kiely IV '74, of Barrington, R.I.; Feb. 3. He was a former ranger for the Cape Cod National Seashore and more recently was director of institutional advancement at St. Luke's School. He served on the Bristol 4th of July Committee and was a Eucharistic minister at St. Mary's in Bristol. In addition, he helped lead a local suicide survivors support group and was a proud member of Alcoholics Anonymous for 26 years, where he offered mentorship and support for those suffering addiction in their lives. While at Brown, he was president of the Sigma Chi fraternity and a member of the men's football team. He is survived by his wife, Laurie; two sons, including **Stuart** '00; two daughters-in-law; and two sisters.

Steven Michael Lewis '75, of Lyme, Conn.; Jan. 9, of cancer. He loved literature and wrote for the *Brown Daily Herald* while in college. He worked in senior level stock broker positions for more than two decades at both Morgan Stanley and E.F. Hutton. He was active in Democratic Party politics, serving on the Lyme Democratic Town Party Committee, as well as being offered a position in the Koch mayoral administration. He is survived by his wife, Denise; two brothers; and his nieces and nephews.

Weldon D. Rogers '75, of Atlanta; Jan. 29. He had a passion for tennis during the 1960s, a time when it was primarily a whites-only sport. He was instrumental in the integration of the U.S. Lawn Tennis Association as a youth, playing in tennis tournaments up and down the East Coast. He was active in the struggle for civil rights. He played tennis at Brown and after graduating became a tennis coach in Atlanta. He continued playing competitively on national circuits, and in 1977, he and his partner won the men's doubles title at the 60th National Championship tournament held by the American Tennis Association. He is survived by his wife, Vicki; a sister; a brother; and many nieces and nephews.

Diane S. Panizza '77, of East Greenwich, R.I.; Jan. 9. She spent 42 years in laboratory healthcare with Women and Infants Hospital. She enjoyed going to the beach, being on a boat, and camping with her family. She

loved animals and traveling with her sister, and visited zoos at each of her destinations. She is survived by a sister and a brother.

80s **Col. Derek "Moondog" Donovan** '80, of Alexandria, Va.; Feb. 11, of esophageal cancer.

He joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 1981 and following his commissioning as a 2nd Lieutenant, he attended the Basic School at Marine Corps Base Quantico and subsequently attended flight school at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, earning his wings as a naval aviator in 1983. Designated a Huey helicopter pilot, his initial squadron was the North Carolina based Gunrunners, where he received his call sign Moondog. His career included deployments and affiliations with the Gunrunners, Golden Eagles, Blue Knights, Warriors, Ugly Angels, and Black Knights. He flew more than 3,500 flight hours, visited more than 70 countries, lived aboard U.S. naval vessels for more than four years of his life, and was qualified in eight different military occupational specialties. His assignments included being selected as aide-de-camp to the Secretary of the Navy and the commanding officer of the Marine Corps Air Facility at Marine Corp Air Facility Quantico, Virginia. His last assignment before retiring was with the Presidential Commission for the Care of America's Returning Wounded Warriors. Donovan also had a stint working in the nonprofit world for Fisher House Foundation. As a volunteer, he worked as an elected official, interviewed prospective students for Brown, and gave driving lessons to local youth. He was a member of the Order of the Kentucky Colonels, an ordained nondenominational minister (via the internet), and a life member of several veterans service organizations. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn; a daughter; a son; four grandchildren; his mother; a sister; and two brothers.

James F. Mihaley '84, of Venice, Calif.; Feb. 1. He was a writer, speaker, and environmental activist. He is survived by his parents, a sister, a brother, a niece, and two nephews.

Maureen Mulligan '84, of Watertown, Mass.; Dec. 25, after six months battling pancreatic cancer. While at Brown, she excelled at field hockey and majored in women's studies. She was a passionate advocate for equality, justice, and the rule of law throughout her life and career. After Brown, she attended Boston College Law School and subsequently practiced law in both Boston and San Francisco prior to becoming a trial lawyer and an equity partner in private practice at Peabody & Arnold in Boston. She was later appointed to the Massachusetts Superior Court. At the time of her death, she was an associate justice of the Massachusetts Superior Court. From

2019 to 2023, she served as chair of the American Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession and also on the advisory committee of the American Bar Association Diversity and Inclusion Center. She was the founding chair of the Boston Bar Association Women's Advancement Forum and served a four-year term on the Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers. She enjoyed international travels with her husband **Carlos Fernandez** '82, who survives her. She is also survived by her son, her parents, a sister and brother-in-law, a brother and sister-in-law, and many extended family members.

Royce T. Johnson '87, of Oakland, Calif.; Dec. 30. He was a procurement and sourcing manager for VeriSign, Inc. In addition to enjoying his position at VeriSign, he also liked to travel around the world and spend time with family and friends. He is survived by his husband, Marcus James Dawson; his mother; a sister; and nieces and nephews.

Eve Harrison '88, of Woodbridge, Conn.; Dec. 19, from breast cancer. She earned a master's in social work from Columbia University School of Social Work in 1992 and worked for more than 20 years in Milford, Conn. She is survived by her husband, Marc; two sons; her father and stepmother; three siblings, including sister **Julie Harrison** '85; and nieces and nephews.

90s **Suzanne M. Lynch** '90, of New York City; Jul. 14, of cancer.

She lived in Paris for 10 years after graduating from Brown and worked in journalism and in public relations. After returning to the U.S., she worked as an interpreter for the United Nations and the New York family court system. She was a Francophile at heart and enjoyed traveling and exploring new places with her daughter; the outdoors, where she completed a 17k elevation trail; and literature and writing. She is survived by her daughter; her mother; two sisters, including **Michele Matzinger** '92; a brother-in-law; a niece; and two nephews.

Christina Monson '92, of Nashua N.H.; Nov. 19, of metastatic breast cancer. She spent her junior year abroad in Nepal, which began a lifelong passion for the country and Tibetan Buddhism. After working in Chicago for Equity Office Properties for several years, she returned to Nepal to work for World Learning as the assistant director of its Experiment in International Learning program. She was eventually promoted to associate dean for East Asian Academic Studies for World Learning. She became proficient in spoken and written Tibetan and Nepali, and was a translator for Buddhist teachers who traveled throughout Europe and the United States. In 2017, she was certified as a business

coach by the Ivey Business School in Hong Kong. She later founded Monson Coaching and Translations LLC. Her lifelong passion for the lineage and teachings of the Tibetan Buddhist Sera Khandro (1892-1940) led her to translating and writing *A Dakini's Counsel*, a book of translations of Sera Khandro's teachings. She was active with the Asia Foundation and was an avid skier, formerly competing as a member of Brown's ski team.

Helene Pliner Myers '92, of Sarasota, Fla.; Jan. 10. She was the president of T.W. Rounds travel and former president of the League of Women Voters. She was passionate about the arts and served as a board member of the Asolo Theater and a treasurer of the Sarasota Fine Arts Society. She was a member of Temple Beth El, Providence, as well as Temple Emanu El, Sarasota. She is survived by her husband, C. William; two sons, including Dr. Thomas R. Myers '81; a daughter-in-law; and two granddaughters.

Zachary Wald '95, of Piedmont, Calif.; Dec. 13, of cancer. He earned a master's degree from Berkeley in city and regional planning and spent the majority of his career working for the City Council of Oakland. He was the original author of the Oakland Pedestrian Master Plan. He is survived by his wife, **Eliza Sorensen '96**; three children, including **Spencer '28**; and extended family.

Hannah K. Edgerly '96, of Providence, R.I., formerly of Massachusetts; Nov. 8, after a long illness. She worked at Rites and Reason Theatre and at Louis Restaurant and was active in the local spoken word poetry gatherings. In the 2000s she moved to the Berkshires and acted at the Lavender Door in Stockbridge, Mass., as well as with local poetry groups. She tutored students at Berkshire Community College and worked in a local bookstore. She returned to Providence in 2015 and continued her writing, which led to her becoming a 2018 finalist in an online writing competition sponsored by the Ireland Writing Retreat. She traveled to Ireland to participate in their workshops. She enjoyed playing Dungeons & Dragons remotely with groups of friends in the Berkshires. She is survived by her parents, Elizabeth and **David Edgerly '64**, and a sister.

Wallace G. Earle '97, of Somerset, Mass.; Dec. 14, of cancer. He graduated from Roger Williams University School of Law in 2003 and worked for several years as a counselor serving youth in need at Life Resources. This experience led him to represent the underserved community in juvenile and family court. While working full-time, attending college, and raising his own family, he devoted his time to coaching softball, basketball, and baseball for his children and grandchildren in leagues in Fall River and Somerset.

He was an avid Boston sports teams fan and enjoyed listening to music and reading, especially Shakespeare; he also had an intense interest in politics. He is survived by a daughter and son-in-law, eight grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, two sisters, and a brother.

Alicia Brooke Gomez '97, of New York City; Nov. 22. In 2001, she began working with her mother, Mariette Himes Gomez, helping to expand the clientele at her mother's interior design firm. Eventually she established her own firm, Brooke Gomez Design, and over the course of her career collaborated with high-profile celebrities, including Michael J. Fox, Sigourney Weaver, and Bethenny Frankel. She frequently appeared on *Bravo's* reality show *Bethenny Ever After*. Her style and talent promoted her to be sought after professionally in the industry. She was a marathon runner and enjoyed kickboxing. She is survived by her mother and brother.

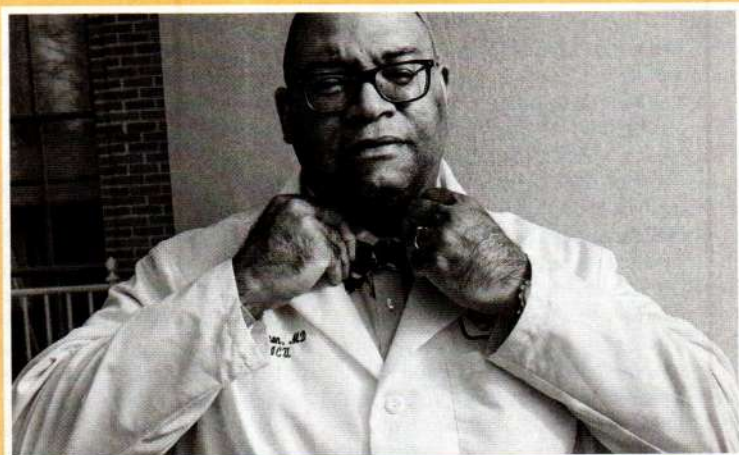
00s Michael A. Vargas '09, of San Benito, Tex.; Jan. 4. After Brown he continued to the University of Missouri-St. Louis, where he earned a master's degree in educational leadership. His commitment to community and public service was evident during his tenure as a Congressional intern under the mentorship of former Congressman Solomon Ortiz of South Texas. In addition, he furthered his experience by interning with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute in Washington, D.C. His federal career reached its culmination as he assumed the role of Congressional Affairs Assistant for the Presidential Classroom Program. In this capacity, he was instrumental in organizing and facilitating student visits to federal agencies and Capitol Hill and shared his knowledge about domestic and foreign policy with the students, family, and friends who visited. He went on to be selected by Teach for America, becoming an educational ambassador committed to uplifting impoverished communities such as St. Louis, where he taught in the Hazelwood School District. Returning to San Benito, he embarked on a distinguished career in public service, serving as an elected trustee on the San Benito CISD School Board. At the time, he was their youngest board president at the age of 31. As president, he implemented groundbreaking policies, including the creation of the district's Dr. Raul Garza, Jr. STEAM Academy and Early College Academy. He played key roles in various campaigns and was a member of the Texas Association of School Boards' Legislative Committee, working toward positive changes in state education policies. Additionally, he served as the executive secretary of the Mexican

American School Board Association, which awarded him the Héroes de MASBA award for the district's five consecutive years of MASBA membership. He later became the assistant director of public affairs with the City of Pharr and cofounded School Board Leaders for Safe Schools. He is survived by his partner, Mario Cortez; his mother; two brothers; and nieces and nephews.

20s Trevor L. Labuda '22, of Falls Church, Va.; Nov. 3. He and his twin brother, Evan, were known in the diving community as the Stanford Twins before Trevor matriculated at Brown. Trevor became a member of the Brown diving team, setting school records and winning athlete of the week titles. Always willing to help others, he served as an EMT and volunteered with Camp Kesem for four years as a counselor, unit leader, and recruitment coordinator. After moving to Falls Church for his first job as a human resources associate at Capital One, he joined the local volunteer fire department. He always sought out opportunities to volunteer and help others. He is survived by his parents, four siblings, and his grandparents.

GS Herbert E. Francis Jr. '50 AM, of Huntsville, Ala.; Feb. 2, at 100 years of age. After serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps, he graduated from the University of Wisconsin and Brown and taught at Penn State, the University of Tennessee, and Northern Illinois State. From 1958 to 1966, he taught English literature at Emory University. He then helped to establish the humanities program at the University of Alabama. He retired after 20 years to focus on his writing but during his tenure he was the recipient of three Fulbright fellowships; one to Oxford University and two to teach at the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo in Mendoza, Argentina. While teaching in Mendoza, he made a point of buying a newspaper each day from one particular street kid named Carlos Roberto Francis and a powerful bond developed, leading to the adoption of Carlos as his son. He purchased an apartment in Madrid, Spain, and spent many summers there writing. He volunteered translating works of Argentinean authors living in exile in Spain and won several awards for his own writings. He was a member of the Huntsville Literary Association and is survived by his son, Carlos, Carlos's children and grandchildren in Argentina, a brother, and nieces and nephews.

E. Lowell Swarts '54 PhD, of Verona, Pa.; Feb. 19. He was employed with Alfred University, General Electric Co., and PPG Industries, from which he retired in 1994 after 35 years in their glass technology laboratories. He was a



FAREWELL

'Galen Had Time for Everybody'

Remembering a physician who crossed all types of barriers

The word *no* didn't exist in Galen Henderson '93 MD's vocabulary—not for patients, not for friends and colleagues, not even for Brown itself.

"I've never met someone who was such an avid listener," says Massachusetts neurologist Carolyn Bernstein. "Whenever I would sit and talk with Galen, I felt like whatever I was discussing was the most important thing in the world to him in that moment. No matter what it was or who you were, he gave all of his attention and focus to you. Galen had time for everybody, and everybody was important to him."

Henderson, who passed away on Dec. 26 after an illness, was an unstinting and magnanimous member of the Brown community, sharing his time, knowledge, and energy on service to various committees, large and small; on mentoring and advising students; even, when asked, narrating a video in

his unmistakable, mellifluous speaking voice.

In a letter to the Brown Corporation announcing his death, President Christina H. Paxson praised "Galen's warm smile, thoughtful and insightful assessment of complex issues, and his steadfast commitment to the well-being of his patients, his colleagues, Warren Alpert Medical School students, and everyone he met."

A native of Tunica, Miss.—population 987—Henderson attended a summer program for talented African American high school students at Tougaloo College in 1984. There, he became enamored by the HBCU's storied legacy of civil rights activism and its success educating Black MDs and PhDs. "I wanted to be part of that history," he recalled in a *Brown Medicine* article. He came to Brown through the Early Identification Program,

which selects two promising sophomores each year for enrollment at Brown after graduating Tougaloo.

Brown would become one of his great loves; the other was his wife, Vanessa Britto '96 ScM. The pair met while attending a conference on College Hill in 1989 and started dating a couple of years later. Britto recounted for a 2018 story commemorating their establishment of a scholarship for medical students. When they became engaged, Britto had an idea: "Because we wanted the same people at our wedding and at Galen's medical school graduation, we thought, 'Why not do this crazy mashup?' So we were married on Sunday and graduation was on Monday." (Their 25th wedding anniversary party requested donations to their scholarship fund in lieu of gifts.)

Henderson began his postgraduate education with

an internship at Rhode Island Hospital, where he was the only African American in the program. "Although he had a formal demeanor, he was kind and generous, helping his peers without fanfare and demonstrating compassion to his patients," recalls Dominick Tammaro, program director for 30 years. "He balanced confidence with humility and consideration of others."

Henderson was so good that members of the faculty tried to persuade him to stay in primary care. "Even as a third-year medical student starting his clerkship, it was clear that Galen was a superstar," remembers Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Michele G. Cyr, director of the clerkship in the early '90s. "I shamelessly tried to convince him to go into internal medicine, but his passion for neurology won out."

After his internship, Galen entered the Harvard Longwood Neurological Training Program, only the fifth African American physician in its 40-year history. He went on to complete a fellowship in stroke and neurocritical care at Brigham and Women's Hospital and became the country's first African American neurointensivist and the first African American fellow to be inducted into the Neurocritical Care Society. Once his training was complete, he joined the staff of Brigham and Women's—eventually becoming director of its neurological intensive care unit—and the faculty of Harvard Medical School. During his tenure, the neurocritical unit grew from five to 20 beds and is now one of the busiest ICUs at the Brigham.

In this role, Henderson dealt with life-and-death decisions every day; he was a national expert on brain death. He received awards from three different U.S. secretaries of Health and Human Services for his contributions to the development of the Organ Donation National Collaborative.

Even at the peak of his career, he made time to mentor medical students, among them neuro-oncologist Nicolas Gonzalez Castro. "Galen was manning the neurology table at one of the residency programs' showcases," Castro recalled for the *Brigham Bulletin*. "I was impressed that someone so senior and busy—he was already an assistant professor and director of the Neuro ICU—would spend a whole evening chatting with medical students. I was struck by his approachable and caring demeanor, while also coming across as ceremonial and dignified. This helped him develop enduring relationships with trainees and colleagues, as well as helped him guide patients and families through very difficult decisions."

Britto, who is associate vice president for campus life and student services and executive director of health and wellness at Brown, says that since his passing, "So many people have reached out to me," from fellow physicians to the custodian on his hospital floor. "The throughline in their comments is his warmth and love of people. He wanted to find that human connection—in other professionals, students, patients. He believed we're better for having known each other."

Dedicated to elevating opportunities for those who are underrepresented in science and medicine—or what he called "preparing his shoulders for the next generation of people who don't fit the stereotype of what a physician looks like"—Henderson was named chief diversity and inclusion officer at the Brigham, helping to usher in the most diverse classes of residents in hospital history. In 2021, he was the inaugural recipient of the Warren Alpert Medical School's Senior Alumni Award for Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for his work to increase the number of women and physicians from

underrepresented backgrounds in academic medicine; Brown announced that the award will bear his name going forward.

Henderson was the first medical program graduate to be appointed to Brown's Corporation, serving two terms as a trustee, and the first to be president of the Brown Alumni Association. He served as president of the Brown Medical Alumni Association, was a member of the *Brown Medicine* and *Brown Alumni Magazine* editorial boards, and served on University advisory councils for medicine and for relations with Tougaloo. In 2014, he received the Brown Bear Award, the University's highest honor.

Jeffrey Hines '83, '86 MD, his friend and fellow Corporation trustee, reflected on the man beneath the white coat and signature bow tie during a January celebration of life, including his annual pilgrimage to the Newport Jazz Festival. "Galen loved jazz; in particular, Galen loved John Coltrane. We all know that Galen loved to give advice; I'm certain he's giving Coltrane advice right now," Hines said. He was also a self-described Francophile who studied conversational French for many years. He and Britto were committed to medical mission work, primarily in her ancestral home of Cabo Verde, and they enjoyed traveling internationally.

Rather than mourn him, Hines says, "Galen would want us to feverishly love those closest to us...Aspire to be authentic, enjoy jazz, ride a bike, and learn a little French...do what is not easy, what is uncomfortable, and inconvenient. Do what is good."

In addition to Britto, Henderson is survived by his mother, Peggie A. (Bonds) Henderson of Tunica, Miss., and his sister, Erika Winfrey (Harold) of Memphis, Tenn.—

KRIS CAMBRA

Kris Cambra is assistant dean of biomedical communications and editor of *Medicine@Brown*.

member of the American Ceramic Society, the American Chemical Society, the International Commission on Glass, the Pittsburgh Oratorio, and the Funeral Consumers Alliance of Western Pennsylvania. He enjoyed traveling, photography, and the fine arts of Pittsburgh. He is survived by his wife, Rachel; a daughter; two sons; a daughter-in-law; five grandchildren; a sister; and three nephews.

Robert W. Simpson '56 ScM, of Hillsborough, N.J.; Dec. 25. He completed his PhD in microbiology and virology at Rutgers University and worked as a research virologist at Public Health Research Institute in New York City. In 1968, he returned to Rutgers as professor and director of virology at Waksman Institute of Microbiology. He was a member of the New Jersey State Commission on Cancer Research and served as a scientific reviewer for various NIH Study sections. He was an active volunteer in the community, serving with the Hillsborough Rescue Squad as a member and crew chief, the American Red Cross as a first aid/CPR instructor and board member, a member and chairman of the Hillsborough Environmental Commission, and first president of Friends of Hillsborough. He was an accomplished pianist and enjoyed attending concerts. He completed home improvement projects, acquiring new skills and creating a beautiful landscape that surrounded the swimming pool he personally built for his family. He is survived by four children and their spouses, six grandchildren, and a brother.

Donald B. Gibson '62 PhD, of Princeton, N.J.; Nov. 18. He was an assistant professor at Wayne State University before joining the faculty at UConn as an associate professor of African American literature. He retired from teaching at Rutgers in 2001. During the late 1960s and early 1970s he published several articles, including *Twentieth-Century Interpretations of Modern Black Poets* in 1972. In 1970, he was awarded a study grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and a research grant by the American Council of Learned Societies. He also accepted an appointment to the editorial board of the Langston Hughes Society, and in 1974 he was on the editorial board of the Black American Literature Forum. He edited two books: *Five Black Writers: Essays on Wright, Ellison, Baldwin, Hughes and LeRoi Jones* and *Black and White: Stories of American Life*, which was a collection of short stories for which he wrote the introduction. Other writings included *Is there a Black Literary Tradition?* (1971), *Ralph Ellison and James Baldwin* (1971), and *The Good Black Poet and the Good Gray Poet* (1971). He enjoyed singing, cooking, wood carving, and playing tennis, which he did into his 80s. In retirement, he traveled to Senegal and South

OBITUARIES

Africa and lectured at local universities. His final years were spent in both Princeton, New Jersey, and Isle La Motte, Vermont, with his partner, Linda Fitch, who survives him. He is also survived by two sons, three grandchildren, and his former wife, JoAnne Gibson.

Jack R. Leibowitz '62 PhD, of Santa Fe, N. Mex.; Nov. 4. After college and before receiving his PhD from Brown, he worked for six years in government and industrial laboratories. He later became a physics professor at the University of Maryland, published widely on experimental and theoretical condensed matter physics research, and was elected a Fellow of the American Physical Society. He was also elected a Fellow of the Washington Academy of Sciences. In retirement, he painted and authored *Hidden Harmony: The Connected Worlds of Physics and Art*. He was an early member of the Santa Fe Alliance for Science, made up primarily of retired scientists dedicated to introducing young students to scientific exploration. He is survived by his wife, Ariel; a daughter; a son; two grandchildren; a brother; and six nieces and nephews.

Kenneth R. Alvar '68 ScM, '71 PhD, of Middleton, Wisc., formerly of Los Alamos, N. Mex.; Dec. 26. He met his future wife while still a physics graduate student at Brown. They were married while each continued their graduate educations. He held various postdoctoral positions that brought the couple to San Diego, Minneapolis, and finally to Los Alamos. They retired to Middleton, where they enjoyed exploring the national and state parks. He enjoyed canoeing, fishing, and taking photographs of wildflowers and the flowers in the garden his wife grew before her passing. He is survived by two sisters and brothers-in-law.

Joseph F. Baugher '69 PhD, of Chicago; Nov. 12, of kidney failure and cancer. While at Brown working towards his PhD, he met his future wife, Judith Robinson, the physics department secretary. He graduated and did a one-year fellowship to Sheffield, England, sending for her. Upon returning to the U.S., they married and he began teaching physics at the University of Chicago. He went on to work at Lucent Technology and the Illinois Institute of Art. A fan of science fiction and astronomy, he published *On Civilized Stars: The Search for Intelligent Life in Outer Space* and *The Space Age Solar System*. He also enjoyed walking and biking along Lake Michigan. He is survived by his wife, Judith; a daughter; grandson; two sisters; and several nieces and nephews.

Deborah Kapstein Bronitsky '69 MAT, of Little Compton, R.I., formerly of Newton, Mass.; Nov. 17. Upon graduating, she began teaching fifth grade in the Barrington (R.I.) school system and later taught English and social studies at Meadowbrook Junior High School in Newton. She retired from teaching

in 2006 after serving as a permanent substitute teacher at Newton North High School. She worked to improve public education through the parent-teacher associations at her children's schools. She was devoted to her family and boasted an encyclopedic knowledge of jazz music and sports. She is survived by her husband, Leonard; a daughter; a son; two brothers; and two nephews.

George A. Kent '71 PhD, of Cambridge, Mass.; Nov. 16, from complications of dementia. He had a 30-year career in the U.S. Navy, beginning with submarines, then transitioned to research and development of submarine systems. He retired to Cambridge in 1995. He worked at Towers Perrin in Boston and became a pension actuary. He tutored math and science at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School and was an ordained Elder in the Presbyterian Church. He played tuba in the Cambridge Community Band and enjoyed singing in church choirs. He is survived by his wife, Mary Louise; a daughter; a son and daughter-in-law; three grandchildren; a sister; and a brother.

John E. Rowe '71 PhD, of Cary, N.C.; Dec. 8. Prior to matriculating at Brown, he taught at Clark Atlanta College and then worked at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. After graduating, he began working at Bell Laboratories in New Jersey and became department head in 1980. In 1983 he joined the physics department at the University of Florida, coleading a newly formed program in microelectronics and material physics. After two years he returned to Bell Labs, where he worked until 1996. He then accepted a position at the Army Research Office (ARO) in North Carolina and became an adjunct professor of physics at NC State. In 2004 he left ARO and became founding deputy director of the Institute for Advanced Materials at UNC-Chapel Hill. After three and a half years at UNC he returned to the physics department at NC State as a research professor. He was the recipient of several awards and distinctions, including being selected as a Fellow of the American Physical Society, the American Vacuum Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 2011 he received the Albert Nerken Award from the American Vacuum Society for his research on synchrotrons, a type of circular particle accelerator. He was an active member of Apex United Methodist Church and enjoyed fishing, watching football, and *Jeopardy!*. He is survived by his wife, Susie; three children; and five grandchildren.

Madeleine I. Boucher '73 PhD, of Melrose, Mass., formerly of Stamford, Conn.; Dec. 17. She was an assistant professor at St. Anselm College (N.H.) until 1974, when she joined the faculty at Fordham University as assistant professor. She retired from

Fordham as full professor in 1998. She was a Women's Studies in Religion Associate at the Harvard Divinity School from 1983 to 1984. She published *The Mysterious Parable: A Literary Study* in 1977 and *The Parables* in 1981. She was also an accomplished artist, painter, and sculptor. She studied at the Yale School of Art and Parsons School of Design. She enjoyed traveling, especially to England, France, Italy, and Israel. She is survived by two sisters and nine nieces and nephews.

Menasche M. Nass '73 ScM, '75 PhD, of Santa Monica, Calif.; Oct. 28. After graduating from Stanford Law School in 1982, he worked as a tax attorney at DeCastro West, where he eventually became a partner. He was still practicing law at the time of his death. He enjoyed following current events, spending time with his family, swimming, traveling, and playing golf. He is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law, and three grandchildren.

Neal A. Sondergaard '73 ScM, '77 PhD, of Severna Park, Md.; Jan. 12. He worked as a scientist for the Naval Research Lab, earning accolades for his research. Upon retirement he worked as a consultant for Syntek Technologies. He was a member of Sigma Xi, the American Society of Naval Engineers, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. He loved traveling, watching the Baltimore Ravens, and tinkering in his workshop. He is survived by his wife, Sally Olver Sondergaard '76; two children; two grandchildren; and a sister.

Christine J. Lees Jonientz '75 AM, of Hamden, Conn.; Nov. 7. She worked as a consumer banker and was a master gardener. She is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, a brother, and her former husband, Frank Jonientz.

Paul B. Jenison '76 AM, of Redding, Conn.; Dec. 10. He went on to earn his MBA at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and had a career as a financial consultant. He was executive director of UBS Investment Banking and senior managing director of Jenison Financial LLC. He is survived by three children.

Gordon J. Fine '77 AM, of San Francisco; Nov. 3, of cancer. He graduated from George Washington University Law School and had a 30-year legal career. He was active in the American Decorative Arts Forum and enjoyed collecting antiques. He is survived by three brothers and sisters-in-law, and seven nieces and nephews.

Margot Blum Schevill '81 AM (see '72).

Thomas E. Leary '85 PhD, of Youngstown, Ohio; Oct. 29. While obtaining his doctorate at Brown, he was curator of Slater Mill in Pawtucket. Upon graduation, he settled in Buffalo, N.Y., and was director of interpretation for the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society.

While there, he coordinated a survey of Buffalo industry, along with the National Park Service's Historical American Engineering Record, and he and his wife wrote a history of Bethlehem Steel's Lackawanna plant. They also organized exhibits documenting the area's industries titled "Made in Buffalo." In 1988, the couple formed Industrial Research Associates, a consulting firm doing mitigation and other research for government and private agencies, including the Youngstown Museum of Industry and Labor. In 1999 he was hired by Youngstown State University as a history professor. He taught American architectural and industrial history and trained students in the art of public history documentation and museum practices. He retired from teaching in 2021 but continued to work at the museum until his death. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Sholes.

Silvia J. Dasilva '86 AM, of Bristol, R.I.; Nov. 14. She graduated from Rhode Island College with a degree in secondary education with a major in Portuguese. She continued her post graduate studies at Brown, obtaining her master's degree in Brazilian Studies, and taught Portuguese at Rhode Island College. She was involved in several Portuguese organizations and was a member of the American Association of Speakers of Spanish and Portuguese. She is survived by two sons and daughters-in-law and four grandchildren.

Edward G. Gray '90 AM, '96 PhD, of Tallahassee, Fla.; Dec. 22, of a heart attack while mountain biking. He spent his career teaching at Florida State University, rising to the rank of full professor and department chair. He published four books of American history and was coeditor of the *Oxford Handbook of the American Revolution*. At the time of his death he had begun writing two more books. He enjoyed sports, attended Pilates classes, and taught himself the banjo. He is survived by his wife, Stacey Rutledge '92 MAT; a daughter; a son; his parents; two brothers; his mother and father-in-law; a sister-in-law; a brother-in-law; and 10 nieces and nephews.

Lois McPherson Beach '95 AM, of Westerly, R.I.; Dec. 31. She began teaching in 1965 in Stonington, Conn., before starting a family. While raising her family, she taught nursery school and was a camp director for the Camp Fire Girls. She was a skilled seamstress and opened the Pin Cushion fabric store in Westerly. Later, after selling the store, she worked at Mystic Planetarium as a tour guide but, in 1988, returned to teaching in the Westerly school system as an English as a Second Language teacher. She joined a teacher outreach program and traveled to China, Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, and

England. She retired in 2011 and continued to knit, quilt, and travel. She is survived by four children, six grandchildren, and six siblings.

Gabriel G. Hudson '00 MFA, of Burlington, Iowa; Nov. 23.

MD Louise S. Kiessling Fair '76 MD, of Wakefield, R.I.; Oct. 12, of congestive heart failure. She was a developmental and behavioral pediatrician. She served from 1984 to 2000, and 2001 to 2003, as pediatrician-in-chief at Memorial Hospital in Pawtucket, R.I., where she was also founder and director of the hospital's Neurodevelopmental Center. She earned a master's degree from Cornell University in psychology and counseling and worked as a psychologist and social worker in New York state's public school system before attending and graduating from Brown's medical school. She retired in 2003 but continued to serve in multiple leadership roles with the Washington County Coalition for Children, helping to provide continuing education and training to local pediatricians and mental health providers in Rhode Island's South County community. She enjoyed reading, music, gardening, and travel. She is survived by two stepdaughters.

Fac Timothy M. Empkie, of Providence, R.I.; Dec. 30. He had a distinguished career in medicine. He spent two years in the National Health Service Corps and spent a decade coordinating health programs in Central Europe and the Balkans. He joined the Department of Family Medicine in 1984 and later was director of predoctoral education and coordinated medical student exchanges between Brown and German universities in Rostock and Tübingen until 1993. He then was an assistant dean in the Warren Alpert Medical School and from 2002 to 2016 was an advisor to PLME students. In addition to teaching, he was a community activist who led efforts to stop construction of a stadium on park land in Providence and supported LGBTQ+ rights. Always a basketball fan, he served as faculty liaison for the men's basketball program from 2017 until the time of his passing. He is survived by a sister and nieces and nephews.

Richard D. Frary, of Barrington, R.I.; Oct. 16. He matriculated at Amherst College and Boston University School of Medicine and completed his residency at Boston City Hospital before joining the U.S. Navy and being assigned to the Naval Hospital in St. Albans, N.Y. Upon discharge he opened an internal medicine and cardiology office in Rhode Island. He retired in 1994. He was a member of the American Medical Association and served several years on the Council

of the Rhode Island Medical Society. He was a past president of the Bristol County Medical Society and a past president of the RI Chapter of the American Society of Internal Medicine. He also served on the boards of the RI Lung Association and the RI Chapter of the American Heart Association. He was an early faculty member of Brown's medical school. In addition, he was a long term member of the Barrington Yacht Club and served several years on the Barrington Harbor Commission. He is survived by his wife, Joan, and three sons.

Georges Peter, of Brookline, Mass.; Jan. 11. He joined the Brown faculty in 1972 and retired after 34 years with the title of emeritus professor. During his career at Rhode Island Hospital and Hasbro Children's Hospital, he established the board-certified division of pediatric diseases. He authored or coauthored more than 150 publications. His focus was committed to the prevention of pediatric infectious diseases through immunizations. He was an active member of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), serving on the Committee on Infectious Diseases for 13 years. He edited five editions of the AAP's Red Book (Report of the Committee on Infectious Diseases). He served on three federal committees: the Advisory Commission on Childhood Vaccines, the National Vaccine Advisory Committee, and the CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices. He was a member of the World Health Organization's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization and he was a president of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society. An elected member of the Society of Pediatric Research, the American Pediatric Society, and the Infectious Diseases Society of America, he was also a member of the board of directors of the American Committee for the American Memorial Hospital in Reims, France. He was the recipient of numerous awards, including the Distinguished Physician Award of the Pediatric Infectious Diseases Society, the AAP Award for Lifetime Contribution to Infectious Diseases Education, and a special recognition award from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Devoted to Harvard athletics, he managed the Harvard Stadium scoreboard for 29 years. In 2022 he received the President's Special Award from the Harvard Club of Boston. He was a lifetime fan of the Boston Red Sox and he enjoyed sailing in the Lightning Class, in which he competed for more than 60 years, winning numerous regattas and sailing in national and international championships. He was a member of the Annisquam Yacht Club, Boston Harvard Club, Rhode Island Harvard Club, University Club, Niantic Bay Yacht Club, and Longwood Cricket Club. He is survived by his wife, **Carolyn McClintock Peter** '76 MAT; a daughter; a son; and two grandchildren.



Fadahunsi prefers early starts, though with friends tries to be "more chill."

CURRENT OBSESSION

Fast Traveling

FIVE MINUTES WITH Ayoola Fadahunsi '25

When I started my study abroad program, they had a flyer for slow traveling. Slow traveling is essentially when you go to a destination and spend a lot of time there. Your goal is not to see as many monuments or as many attractions in one day. They were really emphasizing, "You guys should slow travel. You learn a lot through slow traveling; it's an enriching experience."

After Italy and Lisbon, I was like, I don't think it's worth the money to slow travel, personally. We're paying a lot for these trips, so that's when I decided I was a fast traveler. I'm very type A and I like organizing things. I went to 17 cities while I was abroad.

Fast traveling to me is making the most out of the time that I have. For fast traveling, you can be in a place for four days, but make sure every day you are doing as much as you can because you can't do all of it. And I think maybe that's the mindset of slow travelers—they don't like just going to attractions be-

cause you're missing out on other parts of the city. For me, fast traveling doesn't mean I only go to attractions. I think it's more about intentionality—if your goal is to meet other people and learn about the culture, you can do that, even if you're going at a fast pace.

My mom went to visit me, and we went to Munich, Zurich, Rome, and Milan—and it was all in four days! We took an overnight bus and a train. The train was from Milan to Zurich, and it was beautiful, you could see the coast, the mountains, and the rivers. We took an overnight bus to Rome, and when I told my cousins in Rome we did that, they were, like, out of their minds. "Why would you do that? Sleep on a bus!" But I will do everything I can.

I've barely seen the U.S. Even Virginia, where I'm from, we have the mountains and I haven't gone. I plan to. It's more expensive to travel in the U.S., but I'll find a way. I'll go on sketchy buses. —INTERVIEWED BY RACHEL KAMPHAUS '25

Top Stops

One of my favorite cities is Paris. I've been obsessed with Paris for a long time. I finally saw the Eiffel Tower light up, so that was great. And then Geneva, Switzerland, took me by surprise. I really like the international political atmosphere there. Fifty percent of people there are not native to Switzerland, so it was very diverse. Milan—I had heard that there was racism in Milan, and I was nervous to go. I was surprised by Milan because I fell in love with the city I thought I would have bad experiences in. We were able to hang out with local friends.

"In Prague, we were able to see maybe eight, ten things a day."



COLLEGE HILL SOCIETY



LEAVE A LEGACY

When Javette Pinkney Laremont '80 thinks back on her first visit to Brown, there's only one word to describe it: magical.

From the warm and inviting campus to the diverse faculty to the vast possibilities offered by the Open Curriculum, she knew Brown was a special place.

As a Corporation trustee emerita, Javette is proud of her legacy and the efforts she has made to pay it forward for younger generations. She credits the Office of Philanthropic Strategies and Planned Giving with providing a path for her to have an even bigger impact. "I can weave Brown into my estate plans. Time will grow my future gift so my ultimate legacy to Brown will be what I have envisioned since graduating."

"Brown is investing in the things that I care about and that I value."

—Javette Pinkney Laremont '80
Brown Corporation Trustee Emerita

**Contact our team to
learn more about making
a legacy gift to Brown.**

**Brown University
Office of Philanthropic
Strategies & Planned Giving**
401-863-9119
Planned_Giving@brown.edu
plannedgiving.brown.edu



BROWN TOGETHER